Master Plan Goals to cost $25 M — $30M

By MARK NESBITT
Staff Writer

The future of Niagara College, both geographic and academic, was unveiled Tuesday by Niagara College President John Saso and David Schleich, vice-president academic.

In a presentation to over 150 faculty and staff, Mr. Saso and Craig Doubledam, a consultant with Environmental Consulting Systems Co., of Toronto, outlined problems with the physical layout and condition of the college's campuses, and proposed condensing existing facilities into three campuses.

The Master Facility Plan also proposed drastic changes to the Welland campus. Elimination of the Mackenzie and Black Walnut buildings and the sale of 34 acres of land would be the first steps. Expansion of the Tecumseh complex and a new building along Woodlawn Road coupled with a 400-bed residence and renovation of Hennepin Hall would complete the changes.

Mr. Saso also stressed the plans' "fluid" nature, and warned that proposed changes are "open to suggestion". He said the plan could take some time to implement. "The very nature of a master plan is to be a long-term document."

Mr. Doubledam said the current system of "one-program campuses" is inefficient, and through space and time use studies determined the most efficient alternative to be the centralization of campuses and programs in Welland, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls.

"The current St. Catharines campus is the worst college facility in the whole province," said Mr. Doubledam.

The new campus in St. Catharines would house the Business and Health Studies divisions. The Niagara Falls campus would retain its focus on hospitality and tourism, and the Welland campus would expand to make room for technical facilities transplanted from their current location in St. Catharines.

Mr. Saso estimated the total cost of all aspects of the plan to run to "about $25-to $30-million." He deferred questions on the St. Catharines site of the new campus, saying he hoped to have the property in hand by "this time next year."

Mr. Schleich then took the podium and introduced his plan to "put the (school's) resources in the front lines."

Under the changes suggested by Mr. Schleich, the current program system at the college would be reduced to four basic programs, stressing the "team approach" to education. All current departments would be administered under the following headings: Applied Arts and Technology, General Education and Fundamentals, Business and Hospitality and Health and Community Studies.

He stressed the need for a change in order to create students "with more real world skills," and to create a more efficient administration structure.

He outlined other goals, including the implementation of a tri-semester system.

Mr. Schleich will take his presentation to each academic department, looking for creative input and suggestions for change. "We want to make more time for people," at the college. "This is the goal of the program."

See page 2 for site plan.

NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Tech
WELLAND CAMP
LEARNING
RESOURCE CE

NIAGARA NEWS

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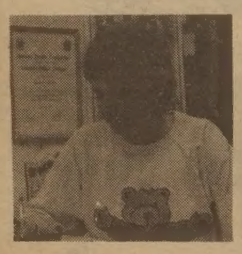
16 pages

Inside the News

Salary demands

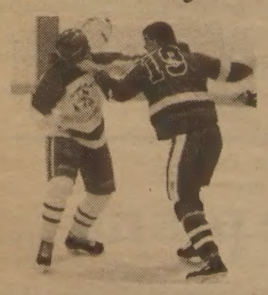
Decreases in provincial transfer payments are forcing the college to 'operate smarter.' See page 6

Poetic justice



LASA instructor and former police officer Heather Hodgson educates on drug and alcohol awareness. See page 7

Battle royal



Niagara's hockey Knights record falls back to .500 but not without a fight. See page 15

Health alert

AIDS awareness cannot be overemphasized. See page 16 for the latest facts.

Star Trek alien's invasion

Klingons seek to recruit new human allies

By CAROLYN MULLIN
Staff Writer

Their members are highly motivated, aggressive and unusual. They have no membership fees and few rules.

They aren't from this planet.

The Klingons, once mortal enemies to the crew of the Star Ship Enterprise, have become allies to humans, and evidently settled on earth to find new recruits for the Imperial Klingon Battle Fleet International.

Even though the Star Trek group already has several members from Niagara College, Fleet Admiral Drahcir Zantai-Komerex said he hopes to double the group's membership by the summer.

Zantai-Komerex, a Niagara Falls resident, whose real name is Richard, said the IKBF is the second largest Klingon group in North America. The most prominent group is the Klingon Assault Group, in existence for five years, but they don't have as many members as the one-year-old IKBF.

"We have about 1,000 members right now within a 300-mile radius in Canada and the States," he said. "I was part of a smaller group but we merged to become an offical fleet."

Richard said he was chosen the fleet admiral because of his dedication to the group through designing the basic uniforms and makeup for the members.

"We dress for all conventions and events in Klingon uniform. It takes about 16 to 24 hours to make each uniform, and each time we dress takes more than an hour."

Eager intergalactic fleet admiral Drahcir Zantai-Komerex tries in vain to "persuade" Hugo Bessems, international student adviser, to let him into classes at Niagara College. Zantai-Komerex was here recently to round up new recruits for the International Klingon Battle Fleet.

Photo by Carolyn Mullin

Skin tones range from white to black, with the characteristic long hair and protruding furrowed forehead. The uniform adds eight inches to the chest and an inch or two to one's height.

"The only cost to new members is that of materials, but the uniform is not required."

Members, ranging in age from 20 to 60 years old, gather for weekly meetings, and attend Star Trek conventions throughout the year. Some do one or the other, but most simply enjoy the chance of temporary escape from 9 to 5 jobs, Richard said. He is an *engineering surveyor with a* university and college education. Richard also has three children, two of whom are involved in the group. He said he has been a trekker since the first show.

Some of the adventures of the group include promotional work for the recent film, Star Trek VI. They also attended the 25th anniversary of the original Star Trek television series.

"We were escorts to the stars at the 25th anniversary in Toronto. We were outnumbered by Star Fleet members 100 to one, but when we enter a room, we quickly steal attention."

The group is offered pay for these events, but do not accept the money because they are non-profit. Participants in Hallowe'en contests share any prize money, and the extra usually goes to Richard for uniform materials.

They have also 'invaded', unannounced, places like Clifton Hill in Niagara Falls, Ont., and local malls.

Richard said police don't bother them, especially when they say they have come from a convention. The only time they are disruptive is when travelling, Richard said, because they drive around in full uniform.

If you find yourself a lonely Klingon on this planet, take heart. You can easily join the battlefleet. Those interested in joining Fleet Admiral Zantai-Komerex can telephone the IKBF at (416)357-4512.

Candidates needed for SAC election

Nomination kits for the upcoming Student Administrative Council elections can be picked up in ME 103 starting March 9 to March 29. The kits must be returned to ME 103 by March 30.

Eligibility for candidates will be announced March 31. Campaigning is from April 1 to 10. Candidate speeches will be held April 9 in the Hamilton Room at noon.

Elections will take place in the following locations on the following dates: Mac Centre for Nursing on April 13. Hospitality and Tourism Centre on April 14. Horticultural Centre on April 15, and at the Welland Campus on April 16.

An advanced polling date has not yet been determined.

New director of fundraising

Private fundraising 'very important'

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

Faced with drastically reduced provincial government funding, the new director of Niagara College's private fundraising arm said his job has become "very important."

"We're going to have to produce. When the government cut back, this (private fundraising) will obviously be a more difficult task," Larry Naftulin, director of the Niagara College Foundation, said, adding his plan for fundraising is based on experience.

Hired after holding similar fundraising positions at a Pennylvania university and college, Mr. Naftulin, 46, began last week with a goal of installing a permanent and comprehensive system to raise money from non-government sources.

About 80 per cent of the college's operating capital comes from provincial transfer payments, but, with this year's cutback of transfer payments to one per cent from the traditional six or eight per cent, college administrator s have said extra emphasis on private funding is necessary.

LARRY NAFTULIN

"It's too early to be specific about the exact dollar figures sought," Mr. Naftulin said, but he named friends and alumni of the college, corporations, businesses and other private foundations as possible sources of money.

"Over the next months and years, we will develop a strategy for approaching those particular groups. We plan to work closely with corporations," he said, emphasizing that big-business assistance is a major goal.

"The college already has close career-training ties with industry," he said.

"We're essentially starting from scratch . . . to start a brand new system to reach out to these various sources."

Introduced to the college administration and executive at the February board of governors meeting, Mr. Naftulin was praised and welcomed by both board chairman Bernard Baril and college president John Saso.

"He's the best qualified for foundation work . . . probably in North America," Mr. Saso said.

At East Stroudsburg University and Spring Garden College in Pennsylvania, Mr. Naftulin directed private fundraising efforts.

"Spring Garden (founded in 1851) was the United States' model for applied arts and technology style colleges . . . when I left, the system here was very familiar," he said, adding Thomas Edison was a former teacher at Spring Garden College.

Canada gets ready to celebrate 125th

By CINDY HARRIMAN
Staff Writer

This year marks a birthday close to the hearts of Canadians — Canada is 125 years old.

Canada 125, a national organization mandated to promote Canada's 125th year of nationhood has begun a coast-to-coast promotional campaign. The campaign strives to get communities involved in planning events and activities to celebrate the country's 125th year.

David Schleich, Niagara College's vice-president of academics, said he would like the college to hold a one-time community event to which college and university partners in the United States would be invited.

'We're young, we're strong, we're good'

"I wanted us to participate (in celebrating Canada's 125th birthday), and create a community event, but an educational community event, and I wanted our partners in the United States to join us in our celebration," Mr. Schleich said.

If enough interest is generated at Niagara College in planning this event, teachers and students from Erie County Community College, in Buffalo, N.Y., Niagara County Community College, in Sanborn, N.Y., and Niagara University, in Niagara Falls, N.Y., would be invited "to join us for a *day of celebration, and a day of* workshops and presentations," he said.

"Essentially, we want to celebrate Canada," he said, adding the event would be open to the community.

Mr. Schleich said the special day of activities would celebrate "our freedom as Canadian citizens; our common concern for the environment; our many achievements as Canadians; our desire to help one another; and our place in continental and global partnerships."

He said the event would take place at Niagara College's Welland campus probably early next fall.

The response to Canada 125's campaign "has been very positive and growing," he said, adding the Queen will be in Ottawa on July 1, to join in the anniversary celebration.

"It's an exciting initiative."

Mr. Schleich said a group has not yet been formed to plan activities at the college, but events might include seminars, workshops, films, lots of food, some socializing, and a bit of touring of the area for the guests.

About six Niagara College teachers have responded with interest to his idea, he said. "I think we're on our way."

He said the event may help to strengthen people's pride in Canada, at a time when optimism is lacking.

"We're young, we're strong, we're good."

"In 1902, the prime minister of Canada said that the 21st century will belong to Canada — Je suis *certain!*"

Efforts to connect colleges increase

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

Niagara College has increased efforts to better connect students to other colleges and universities for transferring credits and sharing resources.

Announcements at the February board of governors meeting were made on over 60 articulation agreements with other post-secondary schools, both provincial and international. The flexible, reciprocal agreements intend to open doors that have traditionally been closed for students.

A working task force formed at a recent Toronto all-presidents' conference included Niagara College President John Saso, who said the "historic meeting" was aimed at "sharing facilities, resources and expertise" among the colleges and universities provincewide.

"All the presidents attended. We arranged 56 articulation agreements . . . to interchange credentials," Mr. Saso said of the meeting, which focused on transfer of students' credits between the schools.

Under the arrangements, students with three years' credit at one type of post-secondary school would receive one year credit at the other. As it now operates, college credits are not counted when transferring to universities. No common policy is recognized.

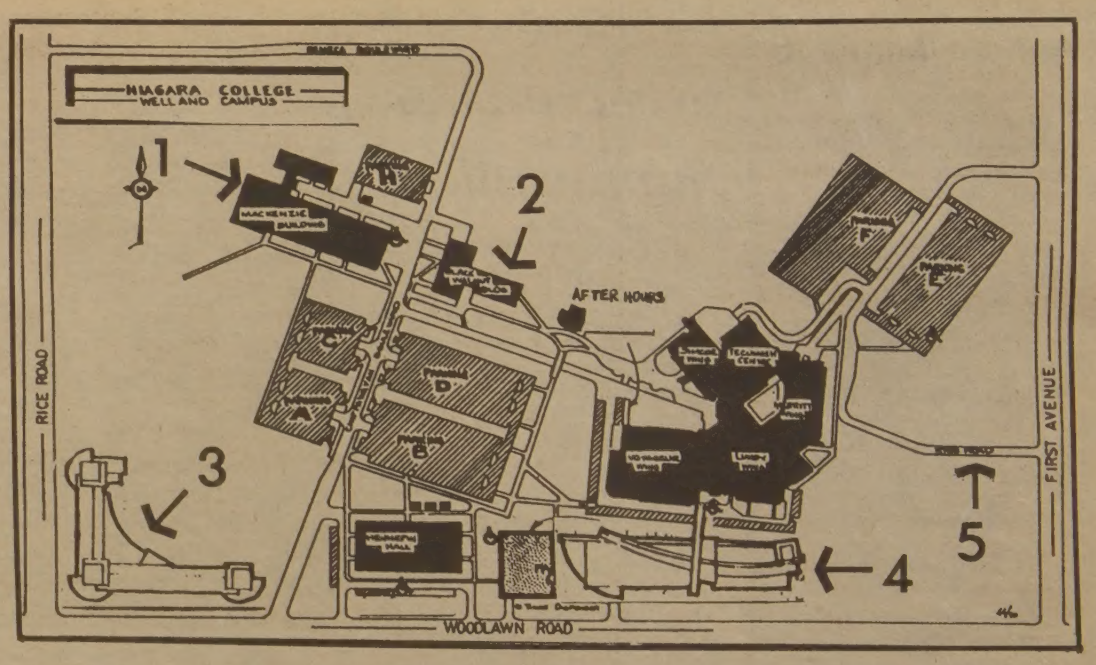
David Schleich, Niagara College's vice-president of academics, said his talks last week with Brock University officials in St. Catharines brought agreement for direct transfer of students between the college and Brock to share skills and resources.

Specifically, "second-year Niagara College broadcast students will get access to Brock's communications program . . . the Brock students would gain access to our broadcast and media facilities," Mr. Schleich said. Further meetings, starting March 16, will add to the three agreements now in place with Brock, he added.

An agreement with Erie County Community College in New York State signed last month, "will allow (Niagara College) students to take part in a state-of-the-art computer technology lab," this year, Mr. Saso said. In return, Erie County students will have access to the culinary arts facilities at Niagara's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls.

Mr. Saso said, "we've begun the process of getting smarter about how we interact with other colleges and universities."

"If we look to the future, we'll see the proliferation of these mutually beneficial agreements," Mr. Schleich said.



Changes proposed in the Master Facility Plan (see page 1) include: 1 and 2 — demolition of both Mackenzie and Black Walnut buildings; 3 — privately-run residence, capacity 400 students; 4 — new structure housing library and classroom facilities and 5 — expanded and landscaped parking areas. Also suggested; renovation of Hennepin Hall to accommodate gym facilities and community centre and the sale of 34 acres of land backing onto student centre.

Niagara College part of proposed French college plans

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

A proposed French-language college for southern Ontario, awaiting funding approval, would use Niagara College facilities for part of its operation, Anne Audet-Giroux said at the February board of governors meeting.

The francophone vice-chairman of the Niagara College board said the French-language college, a "satellite campus college," would utilize Niagara's facilities and the existing infrastructure of six other southern Ontario colleges to operate.

Without its own physical properties or buildings, she said the proposed college would use Niagara's existing French-language programs to help create its curriculum. Niagara College has two French programs with a third to be added this year.

"The (French-language) college has been accepted in concept by the Ontario ministry (of education)," Mrs. Giroux said.

Niagara College and the City of Welland have proposed the new college use Niagara as an educational and administrative resource base.

While the new college was originally planned to open in 1993, Mrs. Giroux said opening will "probably be set back to 1995, depending on funding."

Carmen Gauthier, manager of French language services for the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, said the proposal is part of a larger five-year, multi-million dollar package with the federal government "for second-language instruction in the provinces."

Ms. Gauthier said the deal means more French-language instruction in provinces outside Quebec and more English-language instruction in Quebec.

Costs of the proposed French-language college remain a mystery.

"It's not possible at this stage to name amounts," Ms. Gauthier said, because negotiations about "principles and models" continue.

"The ministry is now waiting for federal grants to establish an opening date," Mrs. Giroux said, adding the province has proposed 50 per cent funding from the federal government.

The funding decision is expected from Ottawa in about three months, she said.

A similar French-language college is also proposed for Northern Ontario. One other French college in Ontario opened in 1990 with campuses in Ottawa, Cornwall and Hawksbury.

Men's Basketball Knights sweep Division 2 title

First time Niagara joins playoffs

The Niagara College men's basketball team has clinched the Division 2 title by beating Sir Sanford Fleming College in Peterborough, 66-62 last Friday night.

Since joining the Division 2 league, this is the first time Niagara has been in the playoffs.

Scorers included Rick Sinclair with 26 points, Paul Weller with 23 points, and Paul Grummett with 10 points.

While missing two of their top players and 33 points of offence because of scholastic reasons, coach Todd Stevens said his players thought it would be an easy game.

He said the Peterborough team played "an excellent game."

After playing Wednesday night against Lambton, the Knights will play in the Final Four tournament in Kingston on Feb. 21 and 22.

Niagara College's men's basketball team members are headed for the title playoffs and want students to help them celebrate. The two-day one-night trip to Kingston on Feb. 21 and Feb. 22, will cost $35. Covered by the fee are hotel, round-trip bus transportation and transport to the games. To make reservations, contact Scott Currie at 682-1335, or any team member. Pictured are front row from left: Scott Currie, Paul Grummett, Rick Sinclair, Brady Fitzgerald, Merv Wrighton. Back row, from left: Coach Jim Marando, Paul Weller, Mike Mercier, Cam Bell, Pat Inneo, Rick DiPietro and Todd Stevens.

Photo by Jason Darrah

Wine Club to host vintner

The Niagara College Wine Club will play host to wine maker Tom Challon who will speak on wines available across the border.

Tom Challon will be at the college's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls on March 1 at 7:30 p.m.

The Niagara College Wine Club is a small group of enthusiastic wine lovers who have one thing in common — to spend one evening a month enjoying and learning about wines. Albert Cipryk, a chef and professor at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre, is head of the club.

"The Wine Club is a club for people who don't mind getting together once a month to find out about the diversity of wines, not only in the Niagara region, but wines abroad as well," said Mr. Cipryk.

'Niagara has an extremely dynamic wine industry.'

As a non-profit organization, the club's membership is not only interested in teaching fellow wine enthusiasts about the great diversities of wines, but also has an interest in promoting wines made in the Niagara region. Mr. Cipryk believes wines made in the Niagara region are wines that have "excellent quality."

"Niagara has an extremely dynamic wine industry," said Mr. Cipryk. "The Wine Club at the college is dedicated to bringing awareness to the quality and diversity of the wines made in the Niagara region."

Mr. Cipryk says that it is only a matter of time before people realize the excellent quality of Niagara wines.

For more information on the Wine Club, contact Mr. Cipryk at (416)374-7454, ext. 3639 or (416)934-4925.

Niagara

NIAGARA COLLEGE

1992 Elections for Internal Governors Faculty and Students March 23, 1992

This year, Niagara College must elect one **Faculty Member** and one **Student** to the **Board of Governors** for the following terms:

Faculty - **September 1, 1992 to August 31, 1995**
Student - **September 1, 1992 to August 31, 1993**

Those eligible to run are:

- FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME FACULTY EMPLOYED AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1992
- FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A CERTIFICATE OR DIPLOMA PROGRAM AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1992
- ADULT TRAINING STUDENTS ATTENDING THE COLLEGE AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1992

Nominations will take place **February 20** to **March 4, 1992**, inclusive. Nomination forms together with information about the number of meetings and the role and responsibilities of Governors will be available at the balloting stations shown below. Each nomination requires two seconders from the nominee's constituent group.

Campaigning will take place **March 9** to **March 22, 1992**, inclusive. Balloting will take place on **March 23, 1992** between the hours of **10:00 A.M.** and **3:00 P.M.** with votes counted on **March 24.** Continuing Education Students registered in a program leading to a diploma or certificate will be able to vote between the hours of **6:30 P.M.** and **8:30 P.M.** in the Continuing Education Office in Hennepin Hall (H-21) on the Welland Campus or the second floor office at the St. Catharines Campus. **Ballot packages and ballot boxes will be available at the following locations on March 23.**

- WELLAND CAMPUS
  - ME-100 - Office of the Vice-president, Student Life and Human Resources
  - H-21 - Continuing Education Office
- HORTICULTURAL CENTRE, ST. CATHARINES
- HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM CENTRE, NIAGARA FALLS
- MACK NURSING EDUCATION CENTRE, ST. CATHARINES
- ST. CATHARINES CAMPUS - MAIN OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR

Strict confidentiality will be maintained using two ballot envelopes, one inside the other. On the specified day, the ballot boxes will be opened in the presence of the returning officer and the return envelopes stating the name, constituent group and signature will be matched against and recorded on the appropriate voter listing to ensure one vote per elector. The outer return envelope will then be separated from the ballot envelope to ensure the secrecy of the ballot and the ballot envelope will be returned to the ballot box pending the count of the ballots. After all return envelopes have been checked against the voters' lists and any disputes with respect to voter eligibility have been resolved, the ballot boxes will be reopened and the count commenced. The returning officer will rule on the eligibility of any ballot disputed due to improper marking.

Voters' lists will be available for checking from **March10-15, 1992**, inclusive at the above locations. In order to vote, your name must be on the voters' list. The last day for revisions to the voters' list is **March 15.**

Keep an eye on bulletin boards for further notices regarding the elections.

February 14, 1992 **John T. Saso, President**

Hoist a frostie

Why is drinking alcohol regarded as such a heinous thing?

Everywhere we turn, we are confronted with self-righteous demands to curb alcoholic consumption. Even establishments that survive through the sale of the "devil's elixir" often claim they merely provide a service but don't encourage consumption. Hooey.

Admittedly, when alcohol is abused it can cause extensive damage, corrupt families, and destroy lives. However, it is not the root of all evil, and many other things wreak greater havoc in the world, such as fanatical religion.

We have the fundamental right to imbibe to great depths of intoxication, as long as we exert no strain on society.

Drinking can be an enjoyable endeavor "in moderation" and can create positive social environments, if it is not depended upon.

Thousands of years of bending the elbow have not left mankind in the cesspool of evolution. Overzealous nationalism and recurring xenophobia handled that predicament. A few more casual brews around an international smorgasbord probably could have prevented a war or two. And we made it to the moon anyway.

In Ontario, the campaign against dipsomaniacs seems to inflict more harm than good. The stringent liquor laws, as compared to other provinces, force tipplers to hasten quaffing (not a good thing) because of early and abrupt last-calls. It's no wonder Ontario has the highest drinking and driving rate when most bars have only a 15-minute warning separating final alcohol service and the rigorous, immediate expulsion at closing time, to the tune of "we've got your money — get out."

While in college, maybe we should get the worst of our thirst out of our system. Join us in After Hours — our pub — for a few frosties and some relaxed confabulation — let's solve some world problems.

Jason Darrah

Letter to the Editor

Benches are a must

Dear Editor:

"Will I ever find a spot to sit down in this place? I just keep walking and walking and walking around this school like some lost Hare Krishna on Sao Paulo trip weed!"

You know, I just don't get it. Maybe it's just me, but I think benches in the halls would be a great idea. But seeing how the accountants run this school, and that the quality of student life is non-existent, we probably won't get benches in the halls this year, or ever. You know, it's such a tough decision for management to make. "Do we give the students what they want, or do we pretend not to hear what is being said?" Don't hurt yourself now.

Our school logo, "Niagara College, Since 1967." I think we should change this logo to read, "Niagara College, since 1967 we haven't changed our way of thinking."

I guess it's kind of ironic that the students are being taught progressive and modern approaches to management, when the Niagara College management itself isn't using these approaches to manage the school. Practice what you teach!

Why doesn't Niagara College management listen to what the students have to say? We want benches. The students are what make this or any school. Management has got to take into consideration what WE want, not what THEY think WE want. We want benches.

I'm really sorry to wake management up, seeing that they were having such a good sleep, but I just brewed a fresh pot of coffee and thought they might like a cup. We want benches. (subliminal).

Word of mouth is a very powerful advertising tool. You can't possibly expect to reach your goal of 6,000 students in the next few years if the majority of students informs the public that Niagara College is nothing more than a farce, still operating like it's the 1960's when Jimmy cracked corn and nobody cared. We want benches (subliminal). This isn't the only college in the world you know.

Niagara College can do a million things right, but so what, nobody talks about the good things. It's always the bad things that people talk about. It's always the bad things that are remembered.

This is 1992, not 1967. Let's get with the times folks. Let's pick up the pace a bit. I've got a life to lead Cha-Cha. There are two types of people in this world, people who "SAY" and people who "DO". Just do it, get some benches in the halls.

Mike Fohshow
Business Administration, Operations Management

Editorials

Letter to the Editor

Concerned about seating

Dear Editor:

Dear Mr. Saso:

As a student enrolled in the third year of the Business Administration — Operations Management Program at Niagara College, I'm concerned with the inadequate amount of seating accommodations available throughout the northeast facility of this educational institute.

The lack of seating in relation to the 4,200 full-time students enrolled at present, and the projected 6,000 students by the year 2,000, (the results of the college's recently unveiled master plan) does not only concern myself, but many other students in various fields of study who share the same interests.

A consensus of opinion among faculty and students indicates a sufficient amount of seating is necessary to provide study and social gathering areas. The lack of these accommodations decreases the already apathetic school spirit and student morale. The availability of these seating facilities will serve to coalesce the student body and the institution as a whole.

I trust you and your staff will recognize the urgency of this matter, and follow up on it with the utmost concern.

Rod Johnson

The Queen's gotta go

It's about time.

The Law Society of Upper Canada recently decided lawyers will no longer have to swear an oath of allegiance to the Queen when they are called to the Ontario bar.

A recent editorial appearing in one of the dozens of newspapers owned by the Thomson Corp., criticized the Society's decision terming it "unmitigated balderdash." It went on claiming the Queen is a symbolic representative of a system of government that many Canadians are proud to live under.

Considering the fact the chairman of Thomson Corp. was knighted by the Queen several years ago, a credibility problem surfaces regarding editorials on such a matter. In fact, the ethics of one corporation owning so many Canadian newspapers are questionable as well.

Funny, but there hasn't been much pride in our government as of late. If anything, there has been substantial emphasis on reforming a toothless constitution, and a Senate that has been dismissed as a farce.

Older Canadians retain a degree of loyalty toward the monarchy, perhaps because Canada and Great Britain fought side by side in the Second World War. A lot of younger Canadians couldn't care less. To them, Royal Family members are merely celebrities, like Wayne Gretzky or Madonna.

The Royal Family contributes mightily to charity and for this they should be commended. Yet, they have not paid a penny in taxes over the last several decades. They are a disgusting drain to Canadian taxpayers who foot the bill for lieutenant-governors and the Governor General. Royalty is an annoying distraction to our national identity.

Hurray for the Law Society of Upper Canada! While we're at it, let's heap all those royal paintings of the Queen from our schools, government offices, and hockey arenas onto a royal boat and send it back to royal old England.

And maybe we could send a royal torpedo after it.

Baron Bedesky

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Arrogance destroys retailers

By JASON DARRAH
Staff Writer

Many Wellanders exhibit the symptoms of narcissism that have earned Ontarians the reputation of being uptight. This selfishness can only be self-destructive in economic hard times.

In a recession, businesses normally do everything in their power to retain customers. Welland businesses often turn people away. We've all been booted out of a restaurant at closing time or refused food service within minutes of the arbitrarily determined kitchen closing. Although the scarce number of restaurants practically constitute a monopoly, halting service to full rooms of bulging-wallet bearing patrons seems like bad business sense. So is slamming grocery doors and retail stores promptly at closing time.

Businesses seem so regimented to the time clock that owners forget about making a buck. Perhaps commerce has stagnated in Welland to such an extent that retailers and service companies merely go through the motions, eagerly awaiting the chance to get home, or go to New York state or even St. Catharines for real shopping and restaurants.

In a time when Welland mayor Dick Reuter talks about bringing new businesses to Welland, it's hard to see what will keep them here. People will discover a user-friendly town where the Salvation Army closes on Saturdays and the public and college libraries are closed on the "family day" — Sunday. If you've got $25 for a card it's probably better to go to Brock library in St. Catharines anyway.

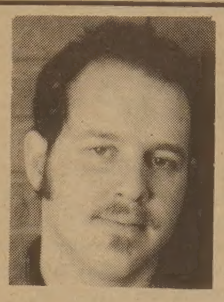
The recession obviates itself with the closing of many Welland businesses, but we're supposedly coming out of the economic doldrums. Businesses must ignite a better attitude or Welland will crumble in its arrogance.

Sorry Mayor Reuter, but unless we students find cushy college or industry jobs after getting our diplomas, we'll take that last bus outta here and we'll take our education and cash with us.

At least the bus service and maybe the car salesman will make some money, if they stay open.

Explore Niagara

Angie Mercuri and Vince Bonazza research programs offered at Niagara College in the health sciences field at College Information Night, Feb. 5. Between 35 and 40 people assembled in Hennepin Hall for the informal session, held by the college's Marketing and Communications department. Program coordinators were on hand to answer questions. In addition, a financial aid seminar and technology videos were offered.
Photo by Abigail Kelly



Rumblings

By MARK NESBITT
Staff Writer

Did anyone here happen to watch Saturday Night Live last week?

If you did, you were witness to history in the making. The United States has found someone to blame its problems on, and the first step in the process of enemy identification took place on network television.

For those who may have missed the event, let me outline it for you. The skit in question involved four businessmen discussing the state of the American worker on a panel discussion format television show. The businessmen were made up to represent Japenese labor leaders.

They all had buck teeth.

They referred to American auto workers as "fat and razy."

We have met the enemy, and he is Japanese.

Now that the drug wars have calmed and the Soviet Union has broken apart, the Americans have found a new enemy. And, best of all, an enemy they don't have to work too hard at hating.

It started whern George Bush commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Although he has not drawn direct parallels between that attack and the current trade situation, he referred to Japanese business practices as "warlike," and the auto trade deficit as an "invasion" of foreign capital.

Japan bashing has already claimed some victims.

The town of Greece, N.Y. voted to buy a piece of equipment made by John Deere, even though it was $10,000 costlier than the same equipment made by Komatsu Co.

Imagine the town's surprise when residents discovered the Komatsu was made in America, and the John Deere in Japan.

Admittedly, the Japanese Prime Minister did little to calm the situation when he last week referred to American workers as "lacking a work ethic."

But slip of the lip or not, he does have a point.

An American production plant takes 44 hours to take a car from beginning to end. Their Japanese counterparts finish the same car in 28 man-hours. Top management in America take home an average of 150 times the normal salary of a factory worker. In Japan, the figure is closer to 10 times that amount.

But what about the Japanese car buyer? Why won't he or she buy an American-made car? Is it because they believe Japanese autos are superior?

Or is it because American cars offered for sale in Japan have the steering wheels on the wrong side?

No kidding.

Just this week, The United Auto Workers of America published a 'Buy American' list, in which cars made outside of the U.S. were detailed and named.

Among that list were several Canadian-made cars.

By the way, that Saturday Night Live skit was a big success. Look for a lot more of the same in the future.

But next time they'll be drinking Labatt's Blue and wearing tuques.

Buzzword mayhem

By MARK DENIS
Staff Writer

Flowery phrases used to describe supposed long-term plans are mind numbing. Master plan, state of the art, and no news this week — powerful. Masters of trivial phraseology think of coined phrases to spew in the event they're questioned.

How about . . .

"Umm . . . my car door is frozen shut and my dog is trapped inside."

or . . .

"My spare ribs are out of control . . . can I call you back."

Walk around some afternoon and listen to "buzz words" or catch phrases. There are politicians in the making here, tightening and refining their appearance.

"Maximize your potential by conscious crowd selection."

"Reduce, reuse, and recycle."

Alright, now that I've established a form of resentment for a social group. Listen, Niagara Colleg is a place where administrators are damned proud of their "student retention factor." Find out what that means on your own and *write a letter to the editor of the* Niagara News. Of course, education is not being compromised.

Don't let administration use this college as a monetary cattle stall. If you feel overcrowded, don't take the "buzzword" excuse.

"Fiscally strained."

Express your anger, use your preferred "buzzword."

SAC disputes editorial

Errors agitate members

Several Student Administrative Council executive members were upset with some statements contained in a Niagara News editorial last week.

Christopher Smith, vice-president of athletics, said the editorial is full of factual mistakes.

The editorial erroneously reported the SAC president was originally the runner-up for the position of executive vice-president, when in fact, Eric Hitchcock was runner-up for vice-president of social affairs.

The editorial incorrectly stated the Student Centre manager to be a college employee. However, she is paid by SAC but is responsible for the management of the college-owned facility.

It also reported After Hours is a major source of SAC revenue, but the SAC executive said any money After Hours makes goes directly towards operating costs and paying off the Student Centre's mortgage.

Mr. Smith disagreed with the editorial's contention that SAC has created no new activities and cited paintball, Yuk-Yuk's comedians, and the opening of After Hours as examples of new activies. He also said, unlike previous years, SAC used flyers to promote events.

In response to the statement that SAC has failed to affect college policy, Karen Beattie, vice-president of internal affairs said SAC was instrumental in bringing about changes to the liquor licence by adding the lunch-hour service.

Regarding the editorial's suggestion that SAC should combat imminent tuition increases, Mr. Smith said he believes the increases are acceptable.

Mr. Smith said the opinion-based accusations are also incorrect and added: "I don't care what the students think about (the) editorial, they'll see right through it."

As for the contention SAC has not had a meeting with the student population, Mr. Smith said "(the) editorial won't affect our decision to hold a general meeting with the student population. We'll make that decision ourselves."

At Monday's SAC meeting, Mr. Smith said SAC passed a motion proposing a constitutional amendment making it mandatory for future SAC executive to discuss at least one constitutional article per executive meeting to increase an understanding of its binding charter.

More Letters

Cafeteria rudeness

Dear Editor:

I'd like to talk about the cafeteria women and how rude they have been lately.

I have taken a few sips of my milk before I paid for it and gotten screamed at. I was only trying to take some out before I put the lid on. I spend my money at this college everyday for lunch and I should get good service. The prices are high enough that the workers should be begging me to buy milk. After the screaming incident I wanted to go home and cry. All I want is some hospitality from the cafeteria workers.

Dave Jarrett
Law & Security Year 2

Excellent coverage appreciated

Dear Editor:

The 25th Anniversary Social Planning Group would like to extend a sincere "**thank you**" to Niagara News student reporters Mark Denis and Joel Naphin, for their excellent work in advertising and covering our recent Blizzard Dance, as well as the Hallowe'en and '60s dances held previously. We sincerely appreciate your enthusiasm, thoroughness and co-operation.

Keep up the good work!

JoAnne Miani

College concerned with transfer payments

Salary increases must equal new revenues to avoid problems

By CINDY HARRIMAN
Staff Writer

There "won't be a problem" if salary demands by instructors are in the same range as what the Ontario government is giving colleges in additional transfer payments, said Hans van der Slagt, Niagara College's vice-president of administration.

"What concerns colleges is the difference between salary increases and the (increases) we get in our grants," he said.

The Ontario government recently announced a three-year-plan giving a one per cent increase in transfer payments to municipalities, post-secondary institutions and hospitals this year, followed by a two per cent increase over the next two years.

The increase in transfer payments to these institutions has traditionally been about six to eight per cent each year.

Mr. van der Slagt said if salary increases go higher than the increases in transfer payments "there could be a problem."

He said the one per cent increase in transfer payments for this year is for the overall system of institutions, so the actual increase Niagara College receives could be "a bit higher."

He said salary increases are determined provincially.

The large increase in the number of students at Niagara College this year is helping college administrators deal with the small increase in the grant, he said.

"We're structuring our budget process in such a way that we're trying to identify new sources of revenue. We're trying to grow our way out (of financial difficulties)," Mr. van der Slagt said.

'We're trying to operate smarter'

"We're trying to operate smarter, generate new sources of revenue, and we're trying to avoid staff layoffs wherever possible."

The provincial government has set up a fund this year called Transition Assistance Funding (or MUSH fund), which makes $160 million available to the overall system of municipalities, universities and colleges, schools, and hospitals, he said.

The types of projects that would be available to colleges through this fund would allow them to operate more efficiently, Mr. van der Slagt said.

The projects are divided into six categories: Human Resources Adjustment (dealing with early retirement); Program Rationalization (the combining of two college programs); Labor Market Adjustment (retraining communities hit with major plant closings); Partnerships with Business and Industry and Other Sectors (articulation agreements with other universities and schools); Curriculum Modification (computer-based learning initiatives); and Shared Services and Equipment (purchasing arrangements with other institutions).

To apply for the funding, the college must present an application to the college committee, then the provincial committee will review it, and it must be received by the Treasury Board by Feb. 28, Mr. van der Slagt said.

"We hope to get a response on (the funding application) fairly quickly."

"Each proposal will be looked at on its own merits," he said, adding $8 million from this special funding is Niagara College's target.

"We're certainly hopeful that this will help us."

Faculty seminars stress education

By SHERI HAMILTON
Staff Writer

Reducing Stress in Your Job is a seminar chaired by Leslie Rose, co-ordinator for Training for Canadian Institutes of Stress.

The seminar to be held in the Tecumseh Lounge on March 4 from 9 a.m. to noon, will discuss such topics as: Handling Workplace Pressure, Dealing With Change and Doing More With Less.

Ed Wilson, consultant in Niagara College's Human Resources Development Office, said, "The seminar will explore ways with coping and handling everything that comes our way while on the job."

Niagara College 101, a course aimed at getting people more involved in the issues that affect teaching, learning, and everyone's well-being at the college, is progressing to its second stage, a retreat at Bayview Wildwood Centre near Orillia.

Twenty-four staff members are expected to explore the invitational-educational model.

Heather Hodgson, a faculty member of the Law and Security Administrtion program at Niagara College, will hold a session on March 5 based on the videos "Scenarios in Self-Defense," by Mary Bindle and Anita Bendickson.

The three videos are the most comprehensive and practical self-defence videos offered on the subject, including such topics as prevention, acquaintance assault and physical resistance. Accompanying the videos is a handbook that outlines how to develop one's own self-defense.

Professor Hodgson will chair a discussion based on the issues raised by the videos.

Each of the three videos is approximately 34 minutes in length.

Niagara College will be host to a Partners in Management conference at the Viscount Inn in Niagara Falls, Ont. on March 24, 25, and 26. Six participants from Niagara will meet with other Western Region College managers to share management issues and techniques.

The Great Teachers Seminar will be held May 19, 20 and 21 in Ridgetown, Ont. Approximately 10 faculty members can attend.

A Support Staff Getaway Conference is set for June 16, 17 and 18 in Ridgetown, Ont. Eight support staff members will be attending.

For more information telephone Ed Wilson, ext. 7761.

Locker break-ins resume

By JASON DARRAH
Staff Writer

Students are calling the area behind the Hamilton Room in the Welland campus Tecumseh Centre "the ghetto" because of the number and frequency of locker break-ins.

Several more locker thefts occurred last week. On Friday, one student's locker was broken into for the fifth time, and the second time in a week.

Police were called to help investigate.

"Thefts have started up again, but (the incidents) have not been specific to only one area," said Linda Maidens, building operations supervisor, adding "I would love to nail this person."

'I would love to nail this person'

In one incident, a couple sharing a locker noticed a person pass in front of their open locker a number of times and after they left, the locker was broken into within the hour, and a coat was stolen.

Ms. Maidens urges students to keep their lockers closed except when removing items. She said students who leave their lockers open while they socialize or sit and do homework "are vulnerable" to a potential thief checking inside for valuable merchandise.

"Leaving the locker open tells this person what you've got and could make you a target," said Ms. Maidens.

She also stresses the importance of collective responsibility and reporting thefts immediately.

"If you spot someone suspicious, report it, and if your locker is broken into we can't do anything about it unless we know about it right away."

Hospitality and Tourism offer nutrition workshops

Niagara College's Hospitality and Tourism Centre is presenting a series of one-day seminars on nutrition.

The seminars are being offered in the winter and spring, 1992 terms with each repeated in the fall, 1992 term. They are being held at the Ramada Renaissance Fallsview in Niagara Falls, Ont. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The $59 fee for each seminar includes a nutritious luneh and seminar material.

The speaker for the seminars is Sylvia Bambra. She is a nutrition consultant specializing in education. Ms. Bambra holds an honors degree form Ryerson Polytechnical Institute's School of Nutrition.

Nutritional Care for Seniors will be held on Feb. 18. This seminar places special emphasis on helping seniors, who live in an institutional setting, achieve a balanced diet to meet their nutritional requirements.

Topics will include: nutrition and seniors — a delicate balance, nutritious meals on an institutional budget, sensory changes and food intake — the challenge of finding nutritious foods that are appealing.

Other seminars to be held are Helping Kids Eat Right for Life; Special Diets for Special Kids!; Seniors in the Community; Cancer, Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, Dimentia; Heart Disease, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes; Risk Reduction through Nutrition and Nutrition for the 90's.

For information on any of the seminars contact Barbara Fonfara at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre at (416) 374-7454, Ext. 3637.

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Meet the Faces of Niagara

An educator in many ways

Niagara College's Heather Hodgson

By MARILYN WALKINGTON
Staff Writer

Most people have the image of a police officer as someone who is always in control, almost to the point of being intimidating. The public see police officers as individuals who portray an image of callousness separating emotional involvement from one case to another.

Heather Hodgson, 40, a former police officer with Peel Regional Police, is a Law and Security instructor at Niagara College. She destroys the image of the intimidating police officer, first in an obvious way, with her casual attire — a sweatshirt that says "Try Hugs, Not Drugs" — and her accessible office where she is available for students.

Heather's office was quickly made like home after she started at the college last September. The walls are covered with pictures of her children and various awards and diplomas. They include her Bachelor of Arts in psychology from York University, diplomas from the University of Western Ontario in co-operation with the Ontario Police College, and an award from the provincial solicitor general for two rap songs she wrote dealing with policing and seatbelt use for youngsters.

A rap song, though, is just one extention of what she calls bringing "the human side to policing." This is one of many ways she continues to freelance as a consultant and educate various age groups on drug and alcohol awareness and policing.

Heather, as she prefers to be called, received her degree in 1973, a year during which she worked at various jobs including one with a security company. In 1973, she was hired as a civilian dispatcher by the Metro Toronto Police Force. Finally by 1974, she became one of the first women in the Peel Regional police force on general patrol. She was promoted to sergeant in 1989.

Heather's involvment in the many drug abuse and alcohol reduction organizations began in 1981 with the Traffic Safety Bureau and Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police. What started out as a challenge from the two groups became the beginning of her career in educating others in policing and substance awareness. Until 1983, education was not a prominent part of drug and alcohol reduction.

Her main complaint was with a program operated by the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP). The program was directed toward Grade 4 students. "I didn't like it," Heather said, so she changed it to be suitable for Kindergarten children up to Grade 6.

In 1983, after an inquest into what Heather calls "the tip of the iceberg — an alcohol related crash," a recommendation was issued requesting something be done and initiatives be made through the High School Accident Reduction Program and the OACP

"So many kids had been killed in the Peel region from alcohol-related accidents," she said. Since nothing existed at that time, she helped develop a five-part educational program for testing that "went right across Ontario." She enthusiastically remembers the help from Humber College students who volunteered to perform in the instructional video.

She described the experience "as a riot."

Her main interest in alcohol awareness became personal when she was struck by a drunk driver in 1990. It was then she felt the pain of the man who cried after losing his wife and daughter in an alcohol-related collision. The "personal attachment" she gained from him by "putting a face on an issue" she only knew from a distance hit closer to home through her own experience, she said.

She said the "worst part" of that experience was that her two children, Lisa, now 12, and Bradley, 9, were present at the time.

After being hit, she was still able to run after the driver hoping to arrest him. As she went to move a parked police car, the man in the vehicle continued toward her. Fortunately, someone whom she clearly speaks fondly of today, was there to prevent the drunken driver from killing her.

The injuries she sustained from the accident prevented her from returning to the police force at full capacity. She said she felt it would be difficult to return to active policing when she'd "be more of a liability." Her upper body, arm and leg were damaged enough to stop her from sitting or standing for long periods of time.

"(Here) I can be the best I can and not feel crippled. . .Peel (Regional Police) treated me extremely well, so I assumed I'd be accepted (at the college)."

"It's great. The administration is amazing. The teachers are great," Heather said, adding she has "no regrets" about leaving the police force.

Heather loves to "brag." But unlike most people who do, Heather has reason to "ramble on" about her successes. There are many experiences of which she is very proud.

Heather Hodgson, law and security administration instructor, holds her favorite award, one of many she received over the years for her work in drug and policing education.
Photo by Marilyn Walkington

Through the Addiction Research Foundation, Heather was involved in drug education with the executive director of the National Drug Strategy in Bermuda. She said consulting with people from Uruguay and Argentina was a "tough one, (especially) with the language barrier. It's different down there — they enforce not educate."

Heather travelled to Berlin in 1990 where she addressed 700 delegates at the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions. As one of the first police officers to speak as an educator, she represented the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police on its Drug Abuse Committee. Five years of research enabled her to write a report on the role of the Ontario police officer in drug education including future initiatives.

Besides continuing as a freelance consultant for police education programs and working as a teacher, Heather is closely involved with a variety of community and provincial committees related to drug and alcohol education and policing.

Some of the committees include *Concerns Canada,* which develops and distributes drug education manuals; *Concerned Kids,* a puppet troop that educates children on substance abuse and AIDS; *Council on Road Trauma* in Hamiton-Wentworth, which "focuses on the reduction of injury and death due to collisions;" the Niagara Peninsula Industry Security Association and the Canada Security Council.

Heather said she uses these groups as a resource for more information and keeping herself updated for teaching her classes on security.

Although there doesn't seem to be much time for Heather to do anything else outside of the law and security field, there is one interest that she has been doing "ever since I can remember" — writing poetry. Through her fables and poetry she and the children she teaches express their feelings and learn to understand the "human side of policing."

Beside her outside activities, Heather said she "really enjoys" teaching.

"My students are good kids."

Second social on Feb. 21

The Non-Traditional Students Association will hold its second social of the season on Friday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m. in the Tecunseh Lounge. The area outside the Tecumseh Lounge will also be licensed to accommodate a larger number of people.

Because of a positive response from the first social, the association has once again invited guitarist and singer Cary Clouser, from the band Oracle to provide music. He will be joined by guitarist, keyboardist and singer Rob Marleau, formerly of the band Southern Comfort.

Executive members will offer tickets which sell for $3 and cover the cost of a buffet dinner. Beer, wine and pop will also be sold. Tickets will be available at the door. There is no charge for childern.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Bill Beaudoin, Tony Vandermaas, or Baron Bedesky, at ext. 7750.

Heather's poetry

A tiny child, still and cold
Your life is ended — three years old,
A yellow blanket over you
There was nothing we could do.

Heather Hodgson, a Law and Security instructor at Niagara College and a former police constable, destroys the image of the staid, uninvolved police officer. She uses poetry to express the changing emotions that she encountered as a law enforcer and in day-to-day living.

When she became a police officer in 1974 — she still remembers clearly the case she was put on "as a test" — her first incident was a child killed by a train. She was able later to express her thoughts through a poem to understand how painful the event really was, she said.

I'm there for you. I feel your pain
Though you don't even know my name.
In my sleep the fears seep through.
Is there nothing we can do?

Under the company title of Children's Literary Consultants — the 's' refers to the hope her own children will carry on the business — she works as a freelance consultant on education programs about substance addiction and policing. Through her poetry and more recently, fables, she helps children understand the "human side of policing."

Since "policing and friendship" is one of the themes she likes to convey, the tools help the students learn to "express their feelings" on policing, substance abuse and their own self-awareness.

Heather teaches poetry to children up to a Grade 8 level, depending on the group, "overseeing their writing" or having everyone "write one together."

The fables help children, four to eight years old, understand "poison proofing, street proofing, and believing in yourself." With stuffed animals, she portrays one of her stories of a "big bear who saves the forest." Each of her characters is "borrowed from friends" so each has realistic personalities.

She enjoys the control she has in writing fables whereas "poetry controls me — if things bother me I write."

In 1989 she wrote her first fable while in bed ill with pneumonia; four more were scribed after a serious car accident in 1990. Five of the fables are on drug-related topics while the other four, in which she was assisted by her two children, Lisa, 12, and Bradley, 9, are about self-awareness and growth.

For Heather, "policing and friendship" seem to be what it's all about. "Policing is helping people."

The future holds a warming dawn.
Though there's pain we still go on.
A shiny badge. A suit of blue.
There is something we can do.

Architech Microsystems, founded in 1985 by two University of Waterloo graduates with a $5,000 youth venture loan, is now a $10-million enterprise. Company officials are, from left: Frank J. Gerencser, vice-president sales and marketing; Shirley Gerencser, vice-president operations; and Michael A. Trueman, vice-president operations and finance.

Contributed photo

Entrepreneur ?

Big loans for small business

Many young entrepreneurs face a serious obstacle in raising the money to get their business ideas off the ground. The answer to this problem is the Ontario government's Youth Start-up Capital programs.

There are two Youth Start-up Capital loans: youth venture, which covers a year-round business; and student venture, which helps students start a summer business.

The youth venture loan is available to adults between 18 and 24 years of age who have recently left school.

A contribution of assets, either cash or equipment useful to the business, is required. The contribution must be equal in value to 20 per cent of the loan. A $7,500 maximum applies and you must start repaying (principal plus interest) during the first two months of the second year of the loan term.

The applicant must be a true entrepreneur. Commission selling, distributing someone else's product, franchises and professional practices don't qualify.

With a student venture loan, you can get an interest-free loan of up to $3,000 to start a summer business. Students must be 15 years of age or older and must be returning to school in the fall. Applicants submit their business plans to the local chamber of commerce or board of trade which forwards their recommendation to the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Technology.

New businesses started by graduating and returning students contributed thousands of jobs and millions of dollars to the provincial economy last year.

Cheryl Connors, communications consultant for Small Business Ontario which runs the programs, said approximately 700 student venutre loans were distributed last year. Students open a "wide range of businesses" with student venture loans. Ms. Connors said the businesses range from the traditional such as landscaping, painting, hot dog stands, jewelery and clothing design to other businesses such as pony rides.

"Six hundred youth venture loans were given out last year," she said. Year-round businesses such as management and computer businesses can begin with such a loan.

Architech Microsystems was founded in 1985 by two University of Waterloo graduates with a $5,000 youth venture loan. Frank Gerencser and Michael Trueman turned a part-time business providing computer systems for businesses, into a $10-million enterprise.

"The youth venture program helped arrange the loan we needed to buy equipment and set up an office, and the business took off from there," Mr. Gerencser said. According to Profit Magazine, Architech Microsystems is now the third fastest growing company in Canada.

Michael Blecher got the idea for his own business on the University of Guelph campus. A student venture loan helped him start Advantage Advertising, which produced a specialized school calendar/planner.

Small Business Ontario, which runs youth and student venture through the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Technology in partnership with the Royal Bank of Canada, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and local chambers of commerce and boards of trade, encourages young people with business ideas to contact the Ministry.

For more information, contact Ms. Connors at (416)325-6534.

Learning Disabilities group preps for awareness week

By SANDRA GOLDEN
Staff Writer

Public Awareness Week for learning Disabilities takes place Feb. 24 to March 6 across Canada aiming at making people more aware of learning disabilities.

The main focus of the week will be showcasing the fourth R:Relationships. Located at 115 Maclean Place in Welland, the Learning Disabilities of South Niagara, serves Welland, Pelham, Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, Thorold and Wainfleet.

Kay MacDonald, a resource counsellor with Learning Disabilities of South Niagara, said because the agency covers such a large area "much of the appointments are arranged by phone and volunteers do much of the distributing of any materials throughout the region."

She said learning disabilities are often overlooked because "it is an invisible handicap." She said learning disabilities "are as crippling as any physical handicap."

The learning problem can be reading, math or some other area but Mrs. MacDonald said people with learning disabilities in one area "always excel in some other area."

Symptoms

The organization will be organizing displays at all major malls. The agency sponsors two car draws a year, with second, third and fourth prizes. This year the South Niagara Branch is planning a garage sale to raise funds. The agency is also supported by the United Way.

A common and treatable disorder is called Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) or Deficit Hyperractivity Disorder (ADHD) which affects three to five per cent of the population. The symptoms include children who are fidgety, have short attention spans, are impatient in play, have problems listening and have difficulty taking instruction. Such children also tend to get involved in dangerous activities. The reasons for having ADD are varied, but it is a disorder that can be treated. Not all children with learning disabilities have ADD. It is important people be aware of learning disabilities for more reasons than the obvious ones. Mrs. MacDonald said among them:

Percentages

-74 per cent of children with learning disabilities suffer from clinical depression at some point during their childhood and adolescence.

-six per cent of all children have attention deficit disorder with or without hyperactivity.

Research shows more than 50 per cent of children with ADD have some kind of a learning disability or learning problem and over 30 per cent of children with learning disabilities have ADD.

Mrs. MacDonald said the program is family oriented. It's aimed at adults and children, although some adults are reluctant to come forward. She said they treated a 35 year old adult who was an intelligent individual. He faked his way through high school by listening well but he could not read. He received help through the learning disabilities program and is learning to read.

"The labor force, more and more, is coming up with jobs where you have to read," she said.

On Thursday nights there is a program offered to anyone who would like to attend at the Faith Tabernacle Church at 380 Pelham St. in Welland. The two-hour program is from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Although the focus is on children and parents, adults are welcome to attend. The program is an information and activity night as well as a support network. It shows the people who attend, they are not alone.

The St. Catharines office serves St. Catharines, Grimsby and Smithville. Its program is held on Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Parnall Elementary School, 507 Geneva St., St. Catharines.

Volunteers are needed to help in many areas of the program, including tutors, distribution people or people willing to provide transportation.

Tutoring

Anyone interested in tutoring can attend a literary tutor training course in Welland starting Feb. 8. The presenter will be Sandra Crux, Ph.D. For more information call the Welland office at 788-3144 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Anyone needing help or information should call the Welland office at 788-3144 or the St. Catharines number at 641-1021. Transportation will be arranged for those who need it.

Baby Boomers' health at risk

As a generation of baby boomers enters its 40s, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario predicts heart disease and stroke statistics will skyrocket.

Dr. John Kelton, volunteer vice-president of research, said in many baby boomer families, both partners work outside the home in a stressful environment. "Time is limited and a high value is placed on convenience. Unfortunately, it is often at the expense of healthy eating," he said.

Dr. Kelton said such convenience foods usually have low fibre content and are rich in saturated fats. "Diets of this kind are associated with high levels of blood cholesterol, which is a risk factor for heart disease."

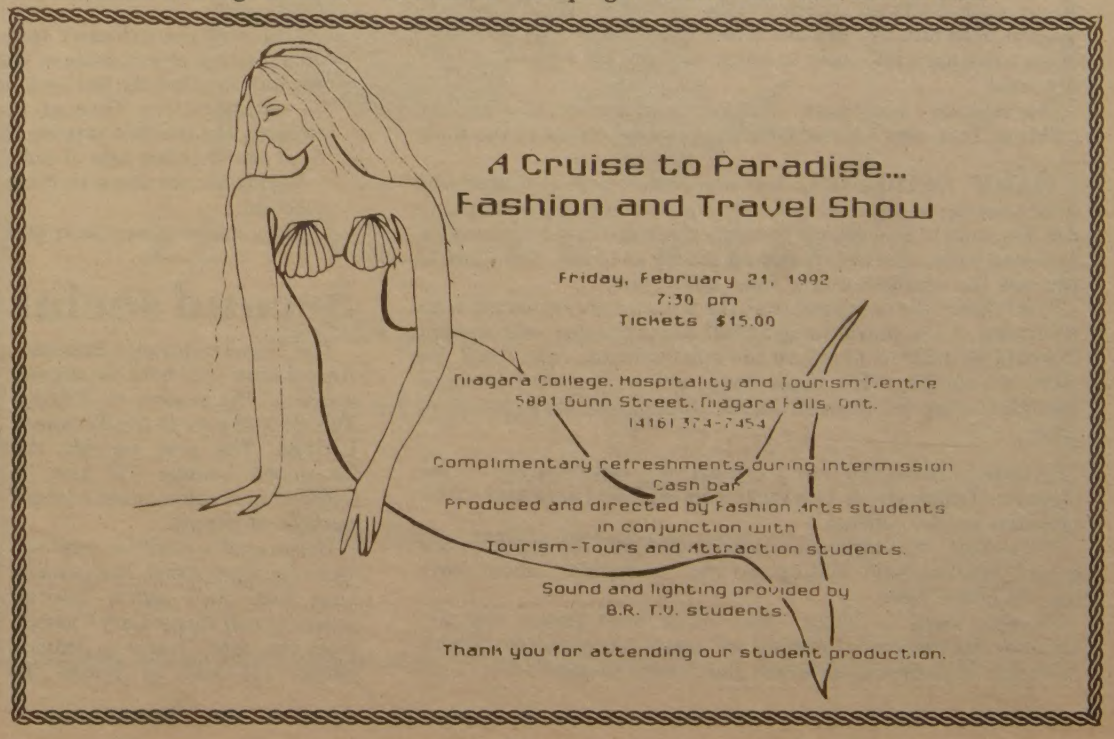
"One of our jobs at the foundation," said Dr. Kelton, "is to prevent heart disease and stroke through research and education — baby boomers are a key target."

The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario is a community-based volunteer organization whose mission is to reduce the risk of premature death and disability from heart disease and stroke by raising funds for research and education.

February is Heart and Stroke Month. The foundation is conducting its annual fundraising and awareness campaign. Heart disease costs Canada $17-billion per year in medical care, lost wages and disability pensions. The foundatin hopes to raise $30-million.

"We all have a responsibility to prevent heart disease and stroke," said Dr. Kelton. "The decision to make healthy choices rests with each individual."

The foundation offers the following advice to reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke. Be smoke free. Eat a healthy diet. Know your blood pressure by heart. Increase physical activity and take time to relax.


A Cruise to Paradise...
Fashion and Travel Show
Friday, February 21, 1992
7:30 pm
Tickets $15.00
Niagara College, Hospitality and Tourism Centre
5881 Dunn Street, Niagara Falls, Ont.
(416) 374-7454
Complimentary refreshments during intermission
Cash bar
Produced and directed by Fashion Arts students
in conjunction with
Tourism-Tours and Attraction students.
Sound and lighting provided by
B.R. T.V. students.
Thank you for attending our student production.

Job Quest

Write professional resumes

Career services offers tips for students

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This is the second of a four-part series on successful job search techniques.

The next step in finding a job after a student completes a self-assessment is the resume.

Full-time students may take a rough copy (may be handwritten) to Janet Forfar or Judy Stankus, career services officers, at Niagara College's Welland campus. Their offices are located opposite the mini-cafe.

"Employers receive 100 to 300 resumes per job posting," said Ms. Forfar. "They are looking for an excuse to throw out your resume."

Ms. Forfar or Ms. Stankus will review a student's resume on an individual basis. In addition, a student must complete a resume registration form. The registration form and resume will be kept on file until December following a student's graduation.

A resume should be written in a professional format. "It is important for the resume to not be too crammed and no more than two pages," said Ms. Forfar.

The career services office will also give students various tips and checklist handouts to assist students in the writing of their resume. Also suggested by the office is the second in a series of job search books: **The Resume.**

The book, written by Nancy Trefiak and Rosemarie Volpe, both counselling and employment centre personnel at Ryerson College in Toronto, takes a student through the steps required for writing a professional resume. Several tips are also offered throughout the book.

"Students should stress their accomplishments," said Ms. Forfar. "The tone of the resume should be positive."

The resume should be written on good quality, light-colored paper and should be free of spelling, grammar and typing errors.

The use of action verbs and adjectives further enhances the resume, said Ms. Forfar.

The covering letter on the resume should reflect the individual company or employer the student is applying to for a job. The covering letter should be specific as to the skills and abilities of the student as they relate to the job.

Employers are looking for an excuse to throw out resumes.

Janet Forfar

The student has the choice of four types of resumes: the functional, chronological, combination and creative.

The chronological resume lists a student's education and work experience in an historical order.

A person well along in their career may opt to use the functional resume which highlights a person's skills and abilities. "Some employers, however, are not comfortable not knowing the gaps in a person's work experience," said Ms. Forfar.

For the older student or a homemaker with noticeable gaps in their employment history or no employment history, a simple statement or descriptive sentence or two may suffice. "Homemakers, in particular, should include volunteer work or stress skills accumulated while opting to stay home," she said.

The creative resume, while it may be appropriate for a student going into the hospitality and tourism industry, may not be appropriate for other students. The danger with a creative resume, said Ms. Forfar, is it may not include all of a student's skills abilities.

Under the Human Right's Act, a student is no longer required to include their age, sex, marital status or religion in a resume.

It is not necessary to give a prospective employer a list of references until after an interview. At the bottom of the resume, a student may say, references available upon request. The references should be on the same quality paper and in the same format as the resume.

"The final rule of resume writing," said Ms. Forfar, "is for the student to be happy with the resume and it must tell the prospective employer what he or she needs to know."

Orphan schools need college staff's help

Niagara College's Adopt-a-School program is looking for new recruits.

The program, initiated by the colleges's Marketing and Communications department two years ago, is designed to provide 49 secondary schools and five career information centres in the college's service area with better service without compromising the fall workload, Monique Morin, marketing associate said.

The service area includes the Niagara Region and extends to Grimsby and Dunnville.

The college staff involved are responsible for a school or centre of their choice, near their home. They visit two or three times a year to update the brochure rack, deliver the new college calendar and arrange for seminars on college programs or tours of the college.

An information meeting will be held Feb. 13 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Tecumseh Lounge.

Cross-border program

During the week of March 2 to 6, employees from Niagara College will visit Niagara County Community College in Sanborn, New York.

The visit will last for one-half to one-full day, and specific dates and times will be arranged by individual exchange participants. Individuals must arrange their own transportation, and are not restricted to the dates listed if their schedules require other arrangements.

While the at the Niagara County Community College, staff members will explore the facilities the college offers to its students and see how the college operates its programs.

Staff members from programs such as Early Childhood Education, Nursing, Technology, and Counselling, as well as from the Registrar's Office and the Resource Program are participating in the event.

"There are approximately 40 members of the Niagara College's staff going," said Ed Wilson, a consultant in the Human Relations Department. "I am very pleased with the college's involvement."

Niagara College has set aside March 19 and 20 for NCCC staff to visit here.

For more information, a NCCC catalog (calendar), organization charts, maps, and an academic program listing are available from Ed Wilson, Human Resources Development Office, LRC, Welland campus, ext. 7761.

Queen marks anniversary

By TARA GRIGG
Staff Writer

With people focusing this week on the Winter Olympics, the Mike Tyson trial, and other news events, Canadians have perhaps forgotten about something important to them.

On Feb. 6, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth celebrated the 40th anniversary of her reign.

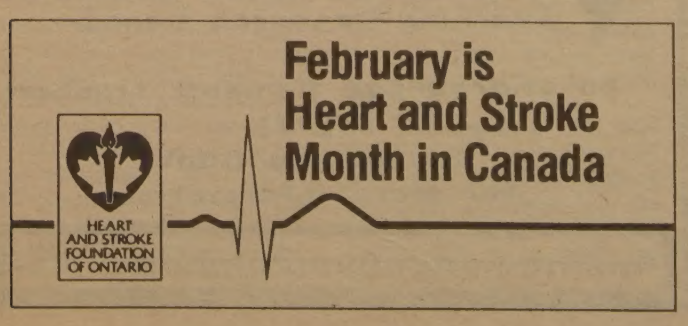
The 65-year-old monarch marked the occasion with a television documentary show.

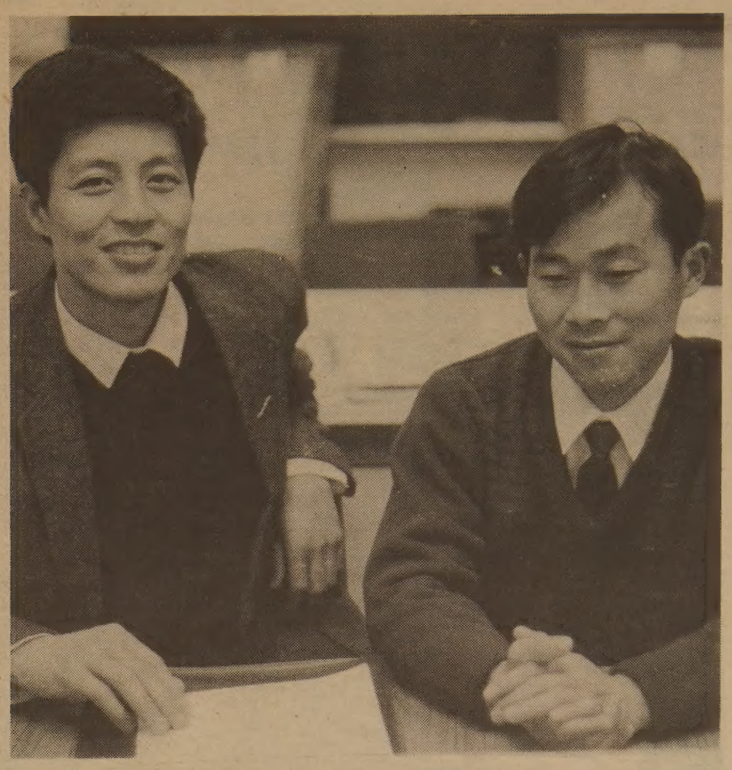
In the broadcast, the Queen announced she will continue her reign until she dies, thus disputing rumors she would abdicate in favor of her son, Prince Charles.

Had the Queen announced her abdication, her son Charles, 43, and his highly publicized wife, Diana, 30, would become the King and Queen of England.

The Queen took over the throne when her father, King George VI, died of lung cancer on Feb. 6, 1952. The then princess was visiting Kenya when she heard the news of her father's death.

"My father died much too young and so it was all very sudden . . . It's a question of maturing into something that one's got used to doing, and accepting the fact that it's your fate, because I think continuity is very important. It is a job for life," she said, in her television documentary.





A team from Yueyang University, Zhang Yiming, left, and Huang Jinseng, is learning Canadian techniques to take back to China following their four-month stay.
Photo by Katherine Towne

Exchange project nears completion

By KATHERINE TOWNE
Staff Writer

The saga continues. The third step and first year of a three-year exchange project with Yueyang University in The People's Republic of China and Niagara College is almost complete.

Zhang Yi Ming, director, and Huang Jinsheng, a machinery and electronics professor, arrived in Canada on Jan. 8 to spend the next four months taking courses and learning techniques to take back to Yueyang University. Mr. Jinsheng is being trained in machinery technology, computers. He's also taking an English language course to assist him while in Canada. He will be taking a hands-on course of various computer programs including Computer Aided Design and Computerized Numerical Control systems.

Mr. Ming is interested in the general study of administrative practices to assist him in managing the technology program that will be implemented at Yueyang University within the next three years.

During their stay, the two will be working between the St. Catharines and Welland campuses. The team visits other colleges such as Sheridan and Conestoga to study technology and management skills.

The project is federally funded by the Canadian International Development Association (CIDA) to establish partnerships and business opportunities. The CIDA will also pay for freight expenses of machinery donated to Yueyang University by Canadian companies.

Dennis Malone, director of International Education at Niagara College, said an equipment list will be sent back with Mr. Ming and Mr. Jinsheng to organize a proper machine shop. A Niagara College team will be leaving this September to teach faculty and organize the lab as a training facility for the university.

Mr. Malone is pleased with the articulation agreement between both countries and said both countries will benefit. "Ultimately, there's a potential commercial benefit . . . it's a long-term deal," he said.

New program offers travel for Niagara co-op students

By CAROL ANNE HUNT
Staff Writer

A trip abroad is a great way for students to learn while they earn.

Dave Smith, director of the Student Work Abroad Program, visited Niagara College to let students know what the program is all about, and what new developments have arisen.

This year, three countries have been added to those included in the exchange. Britain, France, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Australia, Japan, New Zealand and the U.S.A. have been joined by Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

"This is another option for co-op students," Gord McPherson, co-op counsellor, said. "They can combine their working requirements and work in some travelling too."

Despite the sometimes onerous money needs involved in arranging round trip airfares and accommodations, students consider this an asset in gaining work and life experience.

"Feedback I've gotten from students is they've been really pleased with things," Mr. McPherson said.

Monica Kovacs, first-year business administration student, went to London, England in the summer of 1988 when she was a student in the Hotel and Restaurant Administration program.

She said at first, it was depressing and lonely. "It's a foreign country and you don't know anybody." Quickly, however, she met a group of girls from the Maritimes and they rented an apartment. Once she had found a job in her field, things started to look up, and now she says, "If I was 22 again, I would definitely do it again."

Initial costs may cause problems for students

Mr. McPherson said some of the problems students encounter were the initial costs involved in the exchange.

"In certain countries, you have to have income guarantees so you won't become a welfare case for them," he said.

"Generally, four months isn't long enough to justify the outlay of money sometimes required. Places like Australia and New Zealand are way out of reach."

Language, however, isn't necessarily as big a barrier as imagined. Students must have a background in whatever country is chosen. However, Mr. McPherson said Mr. Smith mentioned that in Japan, for example, students are hired to teach the English language, or tutor children in English, so a working knowledge of the language, though useful, may not be absolutely necessary.

The program has existed since 1975, and is operated by the Canadian Federation of Students. This is a federally incorporated, non-profit organization which uses its own travel company Travel Cuts/Voyages Campus.

A registration fee covers 60 per cent of the costs to operate SWAP. The rest funds the program to help students with accommodation on arrival.

"I found it a very positive experience," she said. "It put me in the position of a co-op student again, being in a different country, by myself, and having to do this research on my own. It helped me appreciate the anxieties a student on an international program feels, and where they need the support."

She said while she was there, of 800 students that arrived only two considered themselves to have problems adjusting to being away from home.

Of the experience Ms. Kovacs said, "I gained a lot of independence. I live at home and everything is here for me. I open the fridge and there's food, I have a roof over my head. When you're thousands of miles away, you can't go running back to mommy. You have to do it on your own."

Raises $800 for Big Brothers

BOWL-O-RAMA on Niagara Street in Welland was full of the sounds of bowling balls rolling down alleys and sounds of crashing pins last Saturday as several organizations participated in a Big Brother's fundraiser.

Educational Resources and Special Needs students from Niagara College were among the groups taking part in the event. Some of the other groups included The Lions Club, The Optimist Club, Club Richelieu, all of Welland, and some first and second-year students from the Social Services program at the college. The ERSN group raised $800.

Most of the first-year ERSN students were there along with some second-year students. Judy Fleming, a first-year ERSN student, co-ordinated the group's efforts.

Greg Whelan, director of Big Brothers Niagara, said Big Brothers has been raising money this way for a number of years. The money is raised when volunteers get people to sponsor them with a lump sum or by the number of points they get.

Some of the students brought their children who also had sponsors.

Elvira Lucas, co-ordinator of the ERSN program, said this is the eighth year ERSN students have been involved in the annual event.

New environmental centre opens

By LISA PRATT
Staff Writer

Niagara College has launched a new environmental training centre called The Centre for Environmental Training.

The purpose of the centre is to assist Canada's businesses, industries, and municipalities in developing the latest skills to implement environmental solutions and promote development.

The waste management industry is looking for skilled people to help implement such programs as the blue boxes. By 1996, approximately 1,000 landfill sites will be full in Ontario. This creates pressures in the communities to reduce the waste they produce. The centre properly trains people to work in this field.

"What makes it (the centre) special is that it is set up as a special pilot project, responsible for teaching people," said Jon Ogryzlo, general manager.

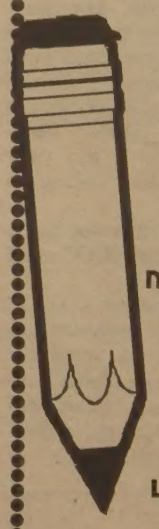
The services the centre provides include training development and seminars, on-the-job training, customized training and certified training, education development, information and reference, market research and analysis, and applied research.

The Centre for Environmental Training is currently developing a number of products in co-operation with employers, governments and associations. These products include seminars, special initiatives, market research, a one-year environmental management program, with a target date set for September 1992, and a two-year environmental technology program, with a target date of September 1992.

The people involved in getting the centre off the ground include Mr. Ogryzlo; Sophie Aggelonitis, who is responsible for seminars and training development; Al Munro, a professor in the technology division at the college who has been working over the past few months putting together the programs; and Nancy Connelly, research co-ordinator.

Niagara College is part of the Technology for the Environment Group. There are four colleges involved in this — Seneca, Mohawk, St. Clair, and Niagara. Each college is responsible for developing two programs in their area and making these programs available to any college in Ontario once they are developed.

Effective
Study Skills Seminars



February 17 and 19
Exam Preparation

All sessions held
Mondays and Wednesdays
at
12:30-1:15
in
the "Round" Room
second floor of the
Learning Resource Center

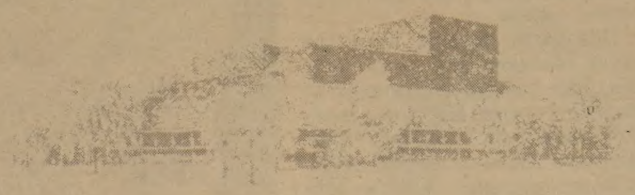
No Charge-See Domenic Trimboli,
ME103
Counselling Dept.
for more information.

Entertainment

Shaw previews enduring classic plays

Pygmalion major work at festival

By ARMANDO BARBARITO
Staff Writer



The Shaw Festival, in Niagara-on-the-Lake, has announced its season plays. Christopher Newton, Shaw Festival artistic director, revealed the 1992 playbill.

The 28-week season presents nine plays in repertory in three theatres from April 21 to Nov. 1.

Previewing at the Festival Theatre

Pygmalion, the first and one of the theatre's enduring classics, is the major work by Bernard Shaw this year. The play, about a flower girl's transformation to Duchess, offers a look at the lost world of the Edwardians—and some of Shaw's best comedy. It previews April 21, and runs from May 27 to Nov. 1.

Counsellor-At-Law by Elmer Rice, is about crime and legal intrigue, 30's style—a revival of a forgotten "masterpiece" with a variety of interesting characters. Previewing on May 16, *Counsellor-At-Law* will run from May 29 to Oct. 11.

Charley's Aunt by Brandon Thomas, is about the struggle to find the missing aunt from Brazil and the comical consequences of impersonation. This play previews June 9, and runs from July 11 to Nov. 1.

Previewing at the Court House Theatre

Widower's Houses, a play set in the 19th century, was Bernard Shaw's first play. First opening in 1892, it is still as powerful and relevant to our times as ever. Previewing on June 28, the play will run from July 9 to Sept. 27.

Drums in the Night, set in post-First World War, in Germany, draws on the art of parallelism to empower it. Written by Berthold Bretch, *Drums in the Night* will preview on June 30, and will run from July 10 to Sept. 27.

Point Valaine by Noel Coward, combines relationships and politics with a resort hotel and rain. *Point Valaine* will be previewing July 28, and will run from Aug. 8 to Sept. 26.

Previewing at the Royal George Theatre

On the Town, is this year's Shaw's musical production. The play is about three sailors who sing and dance their praises of New York City. Music is by Leonard Bernstein, book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green. This musical previews on May 6, and will run from May 30 to Oct. 11.

Ten Minute Alibi, by Anthony Armstrong—noted as one of the most popular murder mysteries of the 30's—centres on the moral dilemma facing two detectives. *Ten Minute Alibi* marks the return of the mystery series to the Royal George Theatre. The play will preview on May 12, and will run from May 28 to Nov. 1.

Overruled, by Bernard Shaw, continues the Shaw's 14-year tradition of Lunchtime Theatre. The play is about the adventures of two couples who split up and decide to travel in opposite directions. Previewing on July 1, *Overruled* will run from July 10 to Sept. 13.

For ticket information on plays at the Shaw Festival, contact the box office at 468-2172. Student prices are available for specific matinees.

Show helps with tax tips

Airing Monday, Feb. 17 on Maclean Hunter Channel 10 at 6 p.m. will be *Tax Time*, the eighth of 15 programs which began in October from the Niagara—Your Community College program series by the college's Media Department.

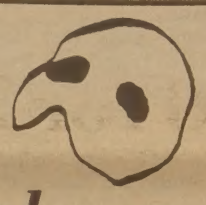
Host for Monday's show will be instructor Willard Wright with college guest experts Rick Brown and Ross Holmes. The 30-minute program will deal with tax form problems.

It will have "answers to common tax problems people have at this time of year," said Keith Lindberg, media instructor.

Monday, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m., again on Channel 10, the last of the 15-series program will air. It will deal with Niagara College's 25th anniversary, the first anniversary special ever produced by the college.

Host Stu Black, Broadcasting Radio, Television and Film program co-ordinator, will guide viewers through 30 minutes of memories. The program will showcase faces of Niagara College people from over the years, said Mr. Lindberg, who is editing the tape.

Canadian Phantom too commercial



By CAROLYN MULLIN
Staff Writer

The marketing genius of the so-called "Canadian" production of the *Phantom of the Opera* has reached and surpassed the mega-merchandising success of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Unfortunately the overdone, over-priced and over-rated production has just about reached the tolerance point for many theatre-goers.

The next time someone tells you "you must see the Phantom" or "you must have the soundtrack," resist — for as long as you can.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's smash hit production is in its third year at the Pantages Theatre in Toronto.

Those who spend upwards of $100 a ticket may as well be buying a share in the Phantom company. However, no benefits are reaped and no profits are made for the spectator.

For the small fortune of $68 a student may fill his or her eyes and ears with elaborate, colorful costumes and powerful renditions of such numbers as "All I Ask" and "The Music of the Night."

The three-hour production is masterfully done, combining numerous special effects like pyrotechnics and floor tracks that make the stage look as if the Phantom's boat floats on a misty underground lake.

The principal roles are protrayed strongly. The music is passionately presented as the story of Gaston Leroux's turn-of-the-century novel, *Le fantome de l'opera*, takes the form of an opera.

However, any praise of the piece is quickly replaced with disgust when one considers the full-grown potential of the commercialism surrounding the Phantom.

While waiting in the lobby, one is reminded by loud speaker that the five "Phantom boutiques" are open for your convenience before, during and after the show. The "Phantastic Phantom souvenir collection" includes clothing, buttons, the soundtrack, the famous magic mask mug, and the unique Phantom magic watch. They forgot the magic Phantom disappearing ink.

During the "Entr'Acte," ushers race down the aisles to the front with mobile carts. They sell smaller souvenirs with "refreshments", such as canned Perrier and bottled spring water for $3, or a small bag of mask-shaped jujubes for $4.

At least we are seeing a Canadian production of this famous piece. Yet the principal roles are filled by British actors. Furthermore, the Canadian production staff list has four people, while the United Kingdom Design Staff list is a mile long. The "Canadian Creative Staff" list is filled with associates and assistants only, leaving British and American staff in high positions.

If you forget the rent this month or don't buy groceries for a while, go see the Canadian production of *Phantom of the Opera*. As long as there is mega-money to be made, the show will go on.

Split Second spends time at pub

By JOEL NAPHIN
Staff Writer

It was a Split Second appearance that lasted about three hours at Niagara College's student centre Feb. 6.

Split Second, lead by vocalist David Falardeau, 24, played their first show at After Hours. The band came on at approximately 12:30 p.m. and performed for about an hour. Taking a break until 2:30 p.m., the band came back for another two hours.

Split Second performed all cover songs by different artists including Bryan Adams, U2, Metallica, Tom Cochrane, World Party, Van Morrison, and many more. There was something for everyone.

Other members of Split Second are bassist Chuck Sollen, 22; guitarist Bill Doan, 25; drummer Mike Naccarato, 26; and keyboardist Peter Spoar, 24.

All members are from Fort Erie with the exception of Mike who is from Port Colborne. Split Second has been together now for almost eight months. Other than playing in the band, the members have jobs, except Bill who attends night school at Niagara College. He will be a full-time student in September in Business Accounting.

Split Second does not have any original songs nor do they have any plans to record. David Falardeau said the band is currently touring "around the Ontario circuit."

As for the show at After Hours, he said: "I thought it was really good. I hope we did well enough that we will be asked to come back."

Split Second performs at Baby O's in Niagara Falls on Feb. 21, 22 and 23.

Niagara band Split Second spent some time at After Hours to entertain students with many cover songs on Feb. 6. They played for about three hours to a full house. From left are David Falardeau (vocals), Bill Doan (guitar), and Chuck Sollen (bass guitar).

Photo by Joel Naphin

Entertainment

King's novel needs things

Deviation from usual style

By SANDRA GOLDEN
Staff Writer

Stephen King's new book **Needful Things** is different from his usual horror filled writings. As Kings's fans know, he often spends a lot of time in his books on character development before the story gets moving.

Often called the master of horror, King spends far too long on character development in this story. There is a gradual build up in the story but nothing big happens until half way through the book. However, in spite of the delay the book does have some wonderful characters and once the story unfolds, it is worth the wait.

Several books of King's have been set in a fictional town in Maine called Castle Rock. **Needful Things** is the last Castle Rock story.

The story begins as a new person, Leland Gaunt, moves to town and opens a store called Needful Things. Of course the residents of the small town are curious about the new store. Most of them soon find out, one by one, that Mr. Gaunt has something for each of them that they just have to own. An 11-year-old boy finds a Sandy Koufax baseball card he has been yearning for. Two women who are friends and ardent Elvis fans separately find Elvis memorabilia that they must have. A paranoid town councillor who has misappropriated town funds finds a magic treasure that will allow him to win at the track. The things Mr. Gaunt sells are not only special, they seem to have magic powers.

This book doesn't have the usual elements of horror

The residents of the small town are willing to pay Mr. Gaunt that includes playing small and seemingly harmless pranks on each other. The pranks are usually accompanied by a small sealed note that is attributing the prank to someone else, unknown to the real prankster. Soon bad feelings begin to erupt among the people of Castle Rock. Alan Panghorn, the country sheriff, is mildly concerned at first but begins to take more notice as things start to change in Castle Rock. Friends begin to fight, enemies fight more ardently and religious groups begin to fight with each other.

The bad feelings erupt into small violence and progress to extremely violent acts being committed by the good people of Castle Rock. Mr. Gaunt gleefully turns Castle Rock into a war zone within a week.

This book doesn't have the usual elements of horror that King fans have come to expect. It has some horror, but it can hardly be called spine tingling. What the story has is some marvelously funny moments. It shows how the people come so attached to their special needful things they will do just about anything to protect them. Several times while reading it I found myself bursting into laughter. What it is, is a humorous look at human greed and pettiness and what could happen if the conditions were made right. The town of Castle Rock has its share of small minded gossip and pettiness which makes it a great breeding ground for violence and Leland Gaunt's purposes.

The book is different from Stephen King's usual writing. It's not my favorite King book, but I still recommend it, especially to readers like myself who have had a long love affair with the writing of Stephen King. It is not a book for everyone. It does take some effort to get into the story but once that happens it unfolds quite nicely.

Needful Things is published by Viking publishers of New York and is available at most book stores, including Coles. It sells for $29.95 plus GST.

Twilight's Child discredits author

By LYNN DRAPEAU
Staff Writer

The name of V.C. Andrews has never been synonymous with boring reading. Yet in a new book with V.C. Andrews' name on it, the difficulty lies with stifling a yawn after every paragraph.

There have been a few books since Mrs. Andrew's death, but none have been quite as unenthralling as *Twilight's Child.*

The story is not slow, on the contrary, it is much too fast. Two years pass within the first 100 pages. There is no attention to details anywhere. When Dawn gets married, for example, the story explains she wore her mothers wedding gown, but nowhere in the novel is the gown described.

The book does contain all the deceit, betrayal and lies of a classic V.C. Andrews novel; however, the sequence of events is poorly constructed.

The only reason the book has become a bestseller is because of the use of the dead author's name. Mrs.Andrews never wrote this book, so readers should not expect the sort of skill that emerged from her other work. This book is an embarrassment to Mrs.Andrews' previous writing expertise.

There are far too many events crammed into far too few pages. There are few, if any explanations provided for events occurring and if there is an explanation, it is underdeveloped at best.

If people purchase the book to find out further details about the Cutler family, they should simply ask someone who has read it, or wait until the book has reached the library. This book is definitely not worth the $6.99 plus tax retail price.

Stylish Women

First-year design students learned first-hand about late 19th century styles in Joan Davies' history of fashion class Monday. Modelling clothes made by students from previous years are, from left, Tammy Irvine, Amy Williams, instructor Joan Davies, and Laurie Dumelie.

Photo by Carolyn Mullin

HEADHUNTERS

Hunting for originality

By MARK DENIS
Staff Writer

Apparently, the live sound of the Headhunters, a Buffalo, N.Y. based band, is a vintage retrospection of early Rolling Stones and the Faces. Their recorded product, however, *First Things First,* is slow, overbearing, and unoriginal; a poor attempt for an "awaited" debut.

How many new bands feel a need to mimic the '70s rock format? What are record producers telling band members? Are they saying, "Listen guys, I know what sells, I know what society is listening to, follow this format and you will be the next Black Crowes."

The Headhunters are a five-member band including Terry Sullivan, vocals; James Mclaughlin and Matt Smith, guitar; Jim Krawzyk, bass guitar; David Kane, piano; and Bill Moore, drums.

The brazen voice of lead singer Terry Sullivan devours attempts by bandmates to make an impact on the album. Guitar solos are clouded with Sullivan's pretentious rasp. The Headhunters do not hide their influences nor their lead singer's air of self-importance.

The guitar combination of James Mclaughlin and Matt Smith occassionally sneaks a riff past Sullivan's vocals such as the "Water and Wine" track. Bluesy, thoughtful guitar work is evident on "Don't Worry Mary"

There is little gusto on this "Headhunteresque" album. The album distances itself from current glitz bands — granted, however, there is over-dependence on established classic rock. The songs have a definite beginning and end, but a climactic punch is lost in musical technicalities.

The Headhunters are distributed on Eureka records, Toronto, Canada.

If the Headhunters are to successfully break through on an independent label, originality is the key. The Black Crowes and London Quireboys made their mark without jeopardizing originality to an extent. This genre of rock can only be pushed too far.

I think it's back to the melting-pot for the Headhunters.

Kuffs trivial fluff

By SHANNON STRANGES
Staff Writer

Mention the name Christian Slater and the first word that might pop into your mind is attitude. Slater is a walking attitude with his Jack Nicholson impersonated voice and slicked back brown hair forever in place. As with his previous movies, Slater again plays a character with an attitude problem.

Kuffs, stars Slater, Tony Goldwyn (from *Ghost*), and Milla Jovovich (from *Return to the Blue Lagoon*).

Kuffs is about a young man with an attitude who does not know what to do with his life. After seeing his brother murdered, he becomes a police officer to get back at his brother's killer.

Generally, the movie isn't too bad. However, throughout the movie, I felt I was watching every other action comedy produced lately. The movie contains the prerequisite car chases, cars being blown up, gun fights, and bloody deaths. There was also the scene where the character realized what he has done wrong with his life and by the end of the movie, has corrected it.

As in other movies, there was the predictable car chase scene through a busy crowded street. To be a bit different, one of the other vehicles on the street was a city bus.

The typical shootout scene was set on top of a building. Of course, our stars received minor injuries during the battle. Typically, they were undermanned against the bad guys.

There is actually very little story to this movie. There was a lot of potential, however, but because the stars are such poor quality actors any story potential was lost.

The biggest problem I had with this movie was Slater's character, George Kuffs, talking to the audience. I am sorry, but this tactic does not work in this film. It worked fine in *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* but in *Kuffs* it was a distraction. I seemed to wait for the character to talk to the audience and forget about the movie.

If you don't mind 90 minutes of brainless comedy, this movie is for you. *Kuffs* is funny if you just want a little laugh.

Newly appointed Board member

Former Niagara College student is a designing woman

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

Like thousands of other Niagara College graduates, Kathryn (Kit) Thompson received her diploma in 1990 and went out to fulfil a common goal: starting a career.

But that's where her story stops being common and starts sounding unique.

Not only did the Niagara Falls woman find a job — starting her own interior design business — she also returned in January to help govern the college.

As one of the five newly-appointed members of the Niagara College board of governors, Mrs. Thompson said her understanding of the feelings and needs of college students, plus her success at applying what she learned at Niagara are key factors for her unpaid job on the board.

"The college can give you the tools but can't force you to use them," she said, advising this year's graduating hopefuls, who face a tight job market, to work harder to make it happen.

"Take advantage of everything here at the college. There's tremendous potential out there, so take it and use it."

Mrs. Thompson is one graduate who did. Although already interested in interior design after years of working in the family business, she enrolled in the three-year Interior Design program as a mature student after about 20 years out of high school.

"I was the first interior design student to graduate with honors and also gave the valedictory address at the graduating ceremonies," she said, proud of a highlight in her life.

Appointed, like all community-based governors, by the Ontario Council of Regents, her two board meetings since January focussed more on her receiving than giving,

KIT THOMPSON

she said. The unfamiliar surroundings and operation of the inner sanctum of college administration will be learned with time, she said, as she begins her first of two possible three-year terms as a governor.

"I have no specific concerns with the board yet. What I can give back is my experience of not knowing . . . in the form of the feedback I can give the board as I learn the whole operation and what I already know of students' needs."

Mrs. Thompson, married with two teenaged daughters, wasted no time at the Feb. 6 board meeting. She called for an organized tour of the college facilities for the orientation of seven new members on the board, appointed or elected since January.

Her dynamic nature soon asserted itself after graduation when she started her now successful business, Kit Thompson Interiors of Niagara Falls.

"Interior design is a job a woman can do independently," she said.

"I started my own business just when the recession hit, but people and my success at the college gave me enough confidence to know what I was going after and what I really wanted."

"I've had some lengthy jobs for good clients, one going on over a year now," she said, pointing to the many skills she learned at Niagara as the foundation for professional application.

Planning and designing, directly or as a consultant, allow her to use some of the college-learned skills in her career, including rendering, detailing, lighting design and application, architectural studies and drafting.

"I started out in commercial — work that is more immediate because business can't linger — but spread out into residential through business contacts," she said.

Born in Scotland, she came to Canada in 1957 when she was 10 years old. She said "working hard" to get what she wants was ingrained by the example given by her parents.

"I saw both parents working at different things just to keep us in food," she said.

Her husband, David, and daughters, Karin, 16 and Andrea, 19, live in Niagara Falls.

Mrs. Thompson, as all governors do, fills specific mandates of the board of governors. First, as a woman, she serves the board's goal of equal gender representation; second, geographically, she represents Niagara Falls; and third, she represents the alumni.

Correction

Incorrect information was given in a report on page 13 of the Niagara News edition, Friday, Feb. 7, 1992 (Vol. 22, No. 10) entitled "Dance inspires memories."

The hexagon displaying a Niagara News edition of the Blizzard of '77 was created by Tom Bowes, media department technician, who said he "took a week to do it." Also, Cathy Weir, winner of a Chaps Restaurant food voucher, is a media department technician, not a faculty member.

We regret any embarrassment or inconvenience these errors may have cause.

Student cash voucher popularity tool:Collins

By JASON DARRAH
Staff Writer

Michael Collins, an instructor at Niagara College and a Niagara Region councillor for St. Catharines, said the student cash voucher system recently proposed by the Reform Party "is absolutely the wrong solution. I think it is off the wall, cooked up to create some popularity with students to broaden the base of the party."

In his sweep through Ontario, Reform Party leader Preston Manning proposed an education voucher for students to replace federal transfer payments to post-secondary educational institutions.

...'it is off the wall'...

In a speech to University of Toronto students on Jan. 21, Manning suggested giving $3,000 vouchers to students redeemable at the college or university of their choice and acceptance.

"The effective choice and bargaining power of students will be increased because they will now have the power to spend their voucher wherever they can get accepted," Manning said.

Manning claims increased competition among universities to attract students would occur and quality of teaching would be emphasized.

Brian Keppy, professor of academic studies at Niagara College, said in theory the plan isn't a bad idea, but with colleges soon changing to a central application centre, as exists with universities, the proposed competition becomes redundant.

"The quality of teaching probably won't increase. The quality of advertising to lure students into making a certain college their first choice will increase," said Mr. Keppy.

As for the actual amount of the voucher, Mr. Keppy said, "It's better than nothing. Universities used to be only for the wealthy and that's one reason colleges were established. Now, costs are rising and there will be an economic criteria for enrolment."

Colleges receive a portion of money per student from the provincial government, but they receive it three years later. Mr. Keppy suggests eliminating the time lag would enable colleges to operate more efficiently.

Mr. Collins said the competition supposedly created by the system already exists. "People already have a choice of about 100 colleges and universities in Canada, and in Ontario the provincial government sends the colleges between $3,000 and $4,000 per student.

"It's a non-issue."

Manning said the proposal is not yet official policy but he will present the scheme to the party's assembly this fall if the response is positive.

Tim Riley on censorship

The Student Administrative Council has tentatively booked Tim Riley, noted rock critic and author, to speak on censorship at Niagara College.

Mr. Riley, a regular contributor to the Village Voice and The Washington Post, uses a multimedia approach to spark discussion about freedom and responsibility, covering topics from free speech to racism.

Karen Beattie, SAC vice-president internal affairs, said, "Everything is set except for the money." She said she is currently approaching faculty members to see their interest, and is trying to convince the college to partially finance the venture.

"There has to be something for mature students," said Miss Beattie, adding she doesn't feel bands in the student pub appeal to everyone.

Although the booking is as yet unconfirmed, Miss Beattie is encouraging interested students and faculty to contact her with any questions or comments.

If approved, Mr. Riley will speak in the Hamilton Room on March 25 from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Sports

Niagara Knight Joe Abbruscato (white jersey) attempts to block a Schnitzel Express player during Tuesday night's soccer action at the Welland Indoor Soccer Dome. Scanty officiating resulted in physical play as Express won the match blanking Niagara 3-0.

Photo by Kari Chwieczak

Knights lose due to poor officiating

By KARI CHWIECZAK
Staff Writer

Scanty officiating cost the Niagara College men's indoor soccer team a 3-0 loss Tuesday night to rival Express, a Men's B division team sponsored by the Schnitzel Corner Tavern in Thorold.

"I don't like to see the game get out of control," said Niagara Coach Steve Celestini. "The referee was letting the hits go and letting the guys off with a warning. That's not enough.

"I think he (the referee) was more worried about himself than the play," Coach Celestini added. "That didn't help us get on track."

That statement proved to be true as the team could not group and find the needed offensive punch to pose a threat to Express.

Express opened the scoring early in the first half on a goal that breezed by Niagara goaltender Adam Thomas for a 1-0 lead heading into the second half.

Thomas stood on his head for the remainder of the game when Niagara's defence lost its composure.

"Adam was outstanding," Coach Celestini said. "He's always there for us."

Express blasted a flurry of shots at Thomas in the late stages of the game, but Thomas was quick on his feet to stone the opposition.

Express widened the margin to 2-0 on a costly Niagara defensive blunder beating the helpless Niagara netminder.

Express scored their final goal on a shot that Thomas blocked, but the bail was tipped in accidentally when he attempted to deflect it the other direction.

"We had a lot of bad breaks," Coach Celestini said. "Our offense didn't create many shots, but our defence was solid."

Niagara, sponsored by Destiny's Roadhouse in Welland, will see action next Tuesday against the Invaders. Game time at the Welland indoor Soccer Dome, Rice Road, is 9 p.m.

Successful tourney

Niagara College host to badminton competition

By KARI CHWIECZAK
Staff Writer

Niagara College played host to last weekend's Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) badminton regionals in the Welland campus gymnasium. And despite frigid temperatures and icy roads, the tournament proved successful.

Men's and women's singles, men's doubles, and mixed doubles round-robin games were played for approximately five hours Friday, and continued for six hours Saturday. Niagara, Fanshawe, Mohawk, Redeemer, Sheridan, Lambton and St. Clair colleges participated in the event.

Niagara's Charles Crumb, one of two men representing the host team, finished in eighth place in the men's singles competition with one win and five losses. His lone win came against Redeemer College with 15-7 and 15-8 scores.

Michelle Hall, a Law and Security student, placed fifth in the women's singles, but did not advance to the playoff round. Michelle sported a 2-2 record. Sheridan won the best-of-three wins final over Mohawk 5-11, 12-9 and 11-4.

Niagara's mixed doubles team of Wain Lorivee, a first-year Electronics student, and Kelly Rutherford, a first-year Business Administration student, were unable to move to the playoff rounds with their record of only one win and four losses. Fanshawe finished in first place, followed by Sheridan and Mohawk.

Trophies were also awarded to the colleges which accumulated the least number of total points. The women's team trophy was given to Sheridan, with 11 points, with Mohawk winning the men's team trophy with 11.5 points. Niagara's ladies earned 22.5 points and the men received 17.5 points.

Slip' slid'n away

Last Saturday's atrocious weather proved to be an omen to the Niagara College's badminton team at the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association regional finals held in the Welland campus gymnasium.

The men's doubles tandum of Steve Pearce and Barry Wills were forced to default from two of their six matches because of a car accident.

Wills, a second-year Law and Security student, was on his way to the tournament Saturday morning when the icy roads and poor visibility conditions caused his vehicle to slide off a St. Catharines road. He hit a curb which resulted in problems with his tires. He could not start his vehicle and was unable to arrive at the college for his 9 a.m. match. Wills was not injured in the accident.

Niagara's men's doubles team finished in sixth place overall with a record of one win and five losses for the tournament. The only win came against Ancaster's Redeemer College.

St. Clair College won the tournament final by defeating Sheridan College. Mohawk College placed third.

Real wrestling has thrown in towel

By CATHY WATT
Staff Writer

I remember when wrestling was real. Whipper Billy Watson and Sweet Daddy Siki actually made body contact. Wrestlers wore standard trunks and boots. Referees did their job.

Last weekend, I decided to watch the Saturday Night Main Event on television. More than 70,000 people packed into an auditorium to watch a few sweaty, steroid-enhanced actors throw each other around a ring.

Thousands of Hulkamaniacs, young and old, hooted and cheered on their hero, Hulk Hogan, who teamed up with Sid Justice against current World Wrestling Federation title holder, Ric Flair, and the Undertaker.

In a flash of sequins and feathers, the bleach-blond Flair sauntered into the ring. Trailing close behind, his ghoulish partner, the Undertaker, scanned the crowd with his zombie-like stare.

Hurling themselves from the ropes, these pseudo-bodybuilders miraculously managed to inflict extreme pain on their rivals without even coming close to their target. While the referee conveniently turned his back, the bad guys double-teamed the good guy. The crowd went wild — pointing and trying to let him know there was dirty work afoot. The man must be deaf and blind.

Most of the action took place on the floor around the ring — conveniently located near the customers paying top dollar to get sprayed with perspiration.

In interviews between fights, the wrestlers had an opportunity to heckle their competitors. Disgusting closeups of bulging eyes and threatening finger-pointing appeared to be standard procedure.

Like every storybook ending, the good guy always reigns victorious. Not surprisingly, Hulk Hogan captured the win.

This isn't sport — it's big business. Hogan is a multi-million dollar commodity. During the match, he plugged deodorant on a commercial. How appropriate . . .

However, I admit there must be tremendous appeal for this type of sport (and I use the term loosely). Otherwise, fans would not be anxiously awaiting Wrestlemania VIII coming up in April.

Take one wrestling ring, several salivating mutants, and 70,000 screaming fans . . . now that's entertainment.

Women hang up their racquets for this year

The Niagara College women's volleyball team ended the season last Friday with a loss at Hamilton's Mohawk College.

The rookie-filled squad bowed out in four games in the best-of-five-wins match by scores of 12-15, 15-8, 7-15, and 11-15.

Mohawk is in first place in Division Two of the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association. Niagara coach Judy Halaiko was "very pleased with the girls' solid performance against such a strong team.

"Everyone played well," she added. "I didn't use any specific starting line-ups."

"We were young and inexperienced this season," coach Halaiko said. "But I think we have a good basis to start off on the right foot for next year."

Sheryl Tremblay was outstanding for the lady Knights with her exceptional hitting and blocking.

Out of 15 teams in the OCAA Division Two, only the top six teams will advance to the finals at Algonquin College in Ottawa Feb. 21 and 22. Niagara's final standings in the division will not be known until later in the week, but the team is not expected to advance to post-season play.

Petition requests benches

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

Two third-year co-op business administration students have gathered a 75-signature petition, including the names of two instructors, seeking replacement of benches in the Niagara College Welland campus Merritt wing.

Mike Fohshow, 21, and Rod Johnson, 20, who returned in January from an eight-month co-op, were incensed at the removal of the benches.

"I don't know the reason behind the removal of the benches. It (the removal) doesn't make much sense to me," said Mr. Fohshow.

The two students submitted letters to John Saso, college president, and Carol Boettcher, vice-president of student life and human resources, this week. They also submitted a letter to the Niagara News. (See page 4.)

"unsightly and filthy" Linda Maidens

"After talking to other students, we came to the conclusion a majority of them (students) believed the removal of the benches was to lure students into After Hours," said Mr. Johnson.

"We don't like to sit in After Hours because it is full of smoke even if you sit in the non-smoking section. We could sit in the library but you aren't supposed to talk in there," said Mr. Fohshow

Linda Maidens, buildings and operations manager, said the benches were removed because they were "unsightly and filthy."

As the old benches were covered in carpeting, they were difficult to maintain and clean, she said.

Ten to 12 new wooden benches were placed around the mini-cafe and in front of the bookstore. However, no new benches were placed in the Merritt wing.

Carol Boettcher, vice-president of student services and human resources, said she is open to suggestions from students for additional seating throughout the college.

"We've had a lot of positive feedback from staff and students about the new benches. We would like to buy more . . . it is just a matter of funding," said Ms. Maidens.

Sports

Knights lose hockey battle to Condors

Knights tied with Condors for playoffs

By SHANNON STRANGES
Staff Writer

The Conestoga Condors were flying high Saturday night. Unfortunately, it was their sticks doing the flying. The visitors beat the Niagara College Knights hockey team 5-3 in the Welland Arena.

In the first three minutes of the game, the Condors were penalized twice for slashing and highsticking. When the Knights were penalized, it resulted in a Condor power-play goal.

Minutes later, another Condors' goal gave the visitors a 2-0 lead.

With 5:26 left in the period, the cheap shots and roughness took its toll on both teams and a massive brawl erupted. Knights' defenseman, Mike Duerden was assessed nine minutes in penalties fight which had both teams standing up cheering. Duerden was assessed nine minutes in penalties and a game misconduct. The Condors' bench was penalized as well.

The Knights scored a power-play goal of their own with 47 seconds left in the period. Rob Lebedick scored the first goal from a Jim Thorpe pass.

At 3:26 of the second period, the Knights found themselves losing yet another man because of a game misconduct. Mike Dakin was given five minutes for highsticking and a game misconduct. The Condors were assessed a five-minute slashing penalty for the fracas.

Sean Wallington was also given a 10-minute game misconduct and another game misconduct when tempers flared after the second Niagara goal of the period.

Thorpe scored the second Knights' goal of the game with 11:15 left in the period.

With just two seconds left in the period, Brett Lory of the Condors speared Simon Wayda to start more arguing. The Condors were given a five-minute spearing penalty and a match penalty.

One of the hardest hits of the game happened in the third period when Rick Ryan of the Knights was hit to the ice. He stayed on the ice for some time while the trainer tried to help. When he finally did get up, he barely made it to the red line before crumpling into a ball in obvious pain.

Dale Zimmerman scored the last goal of the period to bring the Knights within one goal. With less than two minutes remaining in the game, goalie Rob Wylde was pulled for an extra skater. The visitors put the game out of reach with just seconds left, scoring an empty net goal to beat the Knights, 5-3.

After the game, coach Fred Bassi said the Condors are a "tough team" to beat.

He said the Condors will be one of the teams the Knights will have to meet in the finals. Coach Bassi did not think his team was tired after playing the night before.

On Friday, the Knights travelled to Sabreland in Wheatfield, N.Y. to play the University of Buffalo Bulls.

The Knights squeaked past the Bulls 4-3. Jason Disher and Wallington each had two points on the night. John Savarie, Kent Loach, and Ryan were the other Knights' goal scorers. Wayda and Lebedick were given assists on Loach's goal.

The Knights' record is 6-6-1, tieing them with the Condors for a playoff spot.

Mike Duerden of the Niagara College men's hockey team gets a thumb in the eye during a fight involving a Conestoga Condor player. The fight resulted in Duerden receiving a game suspension. After winning the game the night before against the University of Buffalo, the Knights lost last Saturday's game, 5-3. Their record goes to 6-6-1 for the season.

Photo by Shannon Stranges

Knight's record 6-6-1

Hockey raffle to aid student in training

With the success of a recent Niagara College casino night to benefit Darren O'Neal's training expenses, the Welland Jr. B hockey team, the Welland Flames, will be holding a raffle tonight with proceeds going to Darren.

The hockey team "wanted to help Darren out," said event chairman Roly Rousseau.

Raffle tickets cost $2.

Darren is a Niagara College student who is training for the Summer Olympics. The Welland cyclist is training in Florida where he recently finished first in races held last weekend.

During tonight's game against the Hamilton Kilty B's, a Welland Flames jacket, donated by All-Star Sports, will be raffled off. The Old Canal Clothing Company has also donated a sweatshirt for the event.

At Sunday's game against the Stoney Creek Warriors, a presentation will be made to Darren's parents, John and Sharon O'Neal of Welland.

Game time tonight is 8 p.m. with Sunday's game starting at 7:15 p.m.

For sports and news tips, call ext. 7750 visit S212

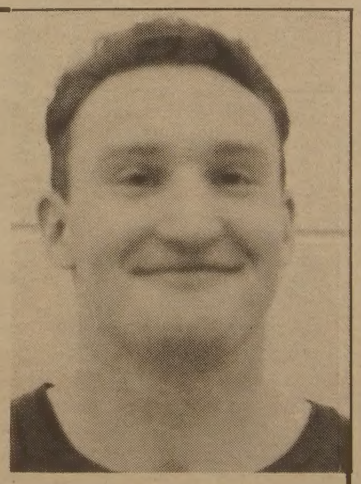
Athlete of the week

Scott Currie has been honored as the Niagara News athlete of the week.

Scott, 22, is a second-year business administration student who plays guard for the Niagara Knights men's basketball team.

"Scott is the best three point specialist in the region bar none," said Niagara basketball coach Todd Stevens.

For the 11 games in which he has played, his point total is 146. So far this season, he has made 35 three point shots and his point per game total is 13.3. He is the third highest scorer on the basketball team.



SCOTT CURRIE

Scott said "basketball is my life and I'm glad basketball is getting recognized in the college." He also wants to thank the Students Administrative Council for involvement in helping fund a trip to the Final Four playoffs in Kingston for fans.

Sports Schedule

HOCKEY — The Niagara Knights will host Kitchener's Conestoga College Feb. 22 at Welland's Main Arena. Game time is 8 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL— The Knights will take part in Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) Division Two championships to be held at St. Lawrence College in Kingston Feb. 21 and 22.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL — The OCAA Division Two finals will take place at Algonquin College in the nation's capital Feb. 21 and 22. Niagara's fate in this trounament will be known early next week.

SOCCER — Niagara starts the second half of its season Tuesday night at the Welland Indoor Soccer Dome, Rice Road.

Sean Ellis: Perfect 6-0 record

Niagara's Sean Ellis was successful in capturing the men's singles final at last weekend's Ontario Colleges Athletic Association regional finals held at Niagara College. Sean, a General College program student, defeated competition from six colleges handily for a perfect 6-0 record. In the playoff rounds, Sean defeated a competitor from Fanshawe College 15-1 and 15-2 to meet Mohawk College in the finals. The Mohawk competitor did not prove to be a tough opponent for Sean who won the men's title and best-of-three wins match 15-3. He will attend the OCAA Championships at Canadore College in North Bay Feb. 21 and 22.

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Healthwatch

Ortha Pharmacetical of Don Mills, Ont., has supplied Niagara College with 576 condoms. The condoms will be put into information packages for students going away on spring break. The packages will also contain pamphlets on sexually transmitted diseases and how to properly use a condom.

Photo by Tara Grigg

Safety available for spring breakers

By TARA GRIGG
Staff Writer

Condom information packages are available to Niagara College students going away for spring break.

Students travelling to destinations other than Daytona, Fla., may pick up the package at the SAC office or at the college's Health Centre located in L20. For students going to Daytona, the information package will be available on the bus.

The condom information package includes two condoms, a pamphlet on how to properly use a condom, and a pamphlet on common sexually transmitted diseases such as gonorrhea, syphilis, scabies, warts, crabs, and herpes.

"We are not promoting sex on these trips, we are just trying to limit the risks," said Dale Deloughery, SAC vice-president external affairs.

Last year, condoms were available to students going to Daytona. Bus captains were responsible for handing them out.

The information packages will be available upon arrival in Daytona.

"Last year, we had students blowing them up on the bus and throwing them around," he said.

Ortho Pharmaceutical of Don Mills has provided the college with the condoms.

The packages will be available on Feb. 24.

"The response last year to distribution was great, it was a good idea," said Dale.

On Feb. 28, 240 Niagara College students will depart for Florida.

SAC members stated "we are not putting the idea of having sex in any person's head, but if you're going to do it, make sure you are protected."

College nurse, Carolyn Hurst, has been working with SAC to implement the distribution.

AIDS Committee of Niagara has multi-mission goals

Educates gays, sex trade workers...

By TARA GRIGG
Staff Writer

The AIDS Committee of Niagara was formed in 1987 and is a vital community-based charitable AIDS organization. The committee provides education and support to Niagara residents. A non-profit organization, the AIDS Committee of Niagara is a member organization of the Ontario AIDS Network and the Canadian AIDS Society.

The committee informs and educates the public about AIDS and HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. They provide education on the prevention of getting AIDS to the gay community, sex trade workers, injection drug users, street youth, and other high-risk groups.

The committee provides speakers to other groups and organizations who want to learn more about AIDS.

The AIDS Committee of Niagara has a variety of posters, books and pamphlets that are available to groups and the public about AIDS.

The AIDS Committee of *Niagara has a mission, they are* committed to:

— improving the quality of treatment, support and advocacy for all those infected by the HIV/AIDS virus.

— preventing the spread of the virus through education and awareness.

— ending this deadly disease.

The core values of the committee are "respect, service, empowerment, and partnership."

AIDS is a reality, people need to get involved

The AIDS Committee of Niagara continues to expand the number of its volunteers.

Individuals are needed to help with public relations, office work, support and fundraising. The following volunteer opportunities are also available: buddies, drivers, food bank, hospital visitation, counsellors, house cleaning, and special events.

Training sessions are provided for all volunteers. They provide support services to those with HIV or AIDS. All names remain confidential and anonymous.

"AIDS is a reality, and people need to get involved," said Joan Blanchard, community relations and financial development director.

A joint community effort is needed in preventing the spread of the HIV virus.

All services of the AIDS Committee of Niagara are available to everyone regardless of race, sex or sexual orientation.

The committee would like to see more students from colleges and universities involved in the prevention of AIDS and to be volunteers, said Mrs. Blanchard.

The AIDS Committee of Niagara also has an Education Committee which meets once a month.

"It would be nice to see students on this committee," she said.

Funding for the committee is provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health, Ontario Trillium Foundation, and Health and Welfare Canada.

The AIDS Committee of Niagara is a registered charity. Private donations are also important to meet the growing needs in Niagara.

AIDS is a disease believed to be caused by HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). It reduces the body's ability to fight infection and diseases.

It is spread by direct contact with blood, semen, or vaginal secretions of an infected person. This happens through intimate sexual contact, needles from intravenous drug users, and a woman passing the virus to her unborn child during pregnancy.

The AIDS Committee of Niagara is located at 541 Glenridge Ave. in St. Catharines. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is (416) 984-8684, or the hotline number is 1-800-263-4911.

Condom sense

Never unroll before using

By TARA GRIGG
Staff Writer

Two good reasons to use a condom are to protect against unplanned pregnancy and to prevent sexually transmitted diseases such as AIDS, gonorrhea, chlamydia, and herpes.

How many students know the proper way to use a condom?

"The most important thing about using a condom is knowing how to use it," said Carolyn Hurst, campus nurse at Niagara College.

Buying condoms can be embarrassing for many students. However, they are available in washrooms located around the campus.

When you buy condoms, buy a supply of latex, reservoir tipped, lubricated condoms. A good quality condom is the most important factor for safer sex. Make sure you check the expiration date on the outer package. Also, store the condoms in a cool, dry place. Don't buy condoms made of any material other than latex. Only latex prevents the passage of harmful germs.

When putting a condom on, remove it from the package carefully, don't rip open the package with your teeth, this could cause a hole in the condom.

The most important thing, is knowing how to use it

Make sure an empty space (not filled with air) is left at the tip of the condom, in order to catch the semen. If the condom has no reservoir tip you can create this extra space at the end by pinching the very tip of the condom as you roll it on.

Don't have any genital contact before the condom is on. It may be too late, semen from the uncovered penis before ejaculation may cause pregnancy or infection.

Never unroll the condom before use.

When removing the condom, remove it at the rim, and do so soon after ejaculation. Make sure the removed condom is kept away from partner's genitals and other areas of the body.

Don't tug to pull the condom off, it may tear.

Never let the penis go soft inside your partner, the condom may drop off and protection will be lost.

Some other important points to remember include:

— If you buy an unlubricated condom, you may need to buy a lubricant. Use only water-soluable lubricants.

— Don't use oil-based lubricants such as petroleum jelly since they can damage the condoms.

— Never use a condom more than once.

— Condoms are effective if used alone, but are more effective if used with another method of birth control.

— Condoms are available in the washrooms around the Niagara College campus.

Caution, sunbathers!

By TARA GRIGG
Staff Writer

Spring break is the time in which students pack a bathing suit, towel, and head south to bake on the beaches. What students don't realize is they are putting themselves at risk of getting skin cancer.

The sun consists of ultraviolet and infrared rays. Ultraviolet light causes mutations in your cells' genetic material.

Cancer cells are produced if the skin's own repair mechanisms fail to repair the mutation.

Infrared light may also cause a precancerous change in the skin.

Tanning salons and sun lamps may also produce skin cancer when used excessively.

People most susceptible to ultraviolet damage have a light complexion, blond or red hair, and freckles.

Unprotected skin absorbs the rays and mutations could occur.

Disregarding sensible precautions can lead to heat exhaustion or to much more serious heat stroke.

Sunscreems are rated according to their ability to protect your skin from burning. The higher the SPF number, the higher the protection.

If you are in the above named risk group, use SPF 15 sunscreen and reapply often if you are swimming or perspire a lot.

Sunscreens are available without a prescription. Para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA), benzophenones, salicylates, and anthranilates are the active ingredients.

Treating a sunburn can be done by using aloe vera, or cover the burn area with a wet towel, using a solution of salt and water. This soothes and cools the skin. Commercial ointments and creams may also be used. However, if the burn is serious, consult a physician.

The ability to come back to school sporting a dark tan is not worth skin cancer.